Minutes

Graduate Academic Affairs Committee

April 21, 2017

Members in Attendance: A. Miller, A. Kent, A. Kaikati, A. Rellergert, A. Trees, C.

Werner, D. Hall, D. Roby, H. Ardizzone, J. Barber, J. Fu, J. Martin, L. McLaughlin,

J. Garcia-Martinez, R. Wood, and S. Winton.

Guest in Attendance: J. Haugen, M. Goldwasser, K. Mitchell, J.D. Bowen, R. Hindi,

and W. Ebel

Call to Order: Dr. Wood called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Approval of Minutes from the March 24, 2017 meeting: A motion was made to

approve the minutes from the March 24th meeting. Minutes were unanimously

approved.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Earth Atmospheric Science Meteorology:

The primary contact person for this information proposal is Zaitao Pan. This

very straightforward Program Change Report changes required courses EAS

5080 and EAS 5090 to elective courses for MS and PhD degree programs due

to the courses overlapping content and scheduling conflict. This change was

previously approved by A&S. This proposal was informational for purposes

of GAAC.

MS in Software Engineering Proposal by the Department of Computer

Science:

Rob Wood asked for a motion is to approve the MSin Computer Science. This unanimously passed and will now move to CADD.

He also received a motion to approve the MS in Software Engineering. He received a motion, and a second. Ten members voted in favor and four were opposed. Motion passed and this proposal will now move to CADD.

## Political Science Change:

J. D. Bowen represented CAS. He told the group that CAS inherited the Masters of Public Administration degree about five years ago. Last year it lost accreditation for multiple reasons, which included a lack of faculty totally dedicated to the MPA degree.

They are proposing to change the MA in Political Science to a MA in Political Science and Public Affairs in order to highlight that they still are doing public e accredited MPA degree.

They currently have a concentration in Public Policy which they would change to Public Policy and Administration. Once again to highlight to students that even though they are giving up the accredited MPA degree, they are still offering a degree that is functionally similar, just not accredited. They cannot call it MPA because it is not going to be an accredited degree. They will be offering a similar program for that accreditation.

As noted on the Academic Definition Modification handout, we now have three levels of certificates: Stand-Alone For-Credit Certificates, Embedded For-Credit Certificates, and Non-Credit Certificates. This basically codifies the three certifications that we are already offering on campus.

This also opens the door for stackable certificates. A student could take three or four classes, receive a certificate, take three or four more classes, receive a second certificate, three or four more, get another certificate, etc. Those three or four certificates wrap up to a degree. That is some double counting as well. This is new to SLU but at the same time we have been doing some of this already.

This is a big topic so we cannot discuss it all today. Jay wanted to get this to the members so they can begin to have discussion with their constituents about the certificates as well as all the policies.

Jay has received feedback on the policy changes from a number of units. If people have specific feedback, Jay requested that they send it to him so that he could quickly summarize them for next month. He will read through the questions and give answer to each question.

Jay is hoping to get all of the policies done by the end of the year.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.