

COLLEGE ASSEMBLY

APRIL 23, 2024

Report from the Graduate Council: Stephen Chrisomalis

Motion on the table at Graduate Council for the reduction in the amount of dissertation credit hours from 30 to 18, reducing the credit hour requirement for Ph.D.s from 90 to 72.

Revisions to dissertation credit hours

- Strong agreement to move forward with reduction from 30 to 18 dissertation credit hours.
- Strong agreement to move forward with variable dissertation credit hour blocks (9991: 3-9 cr; 9992: 3-15 cr).
- Strong agreement to allow current students to adopt this new model with reduced credit hours.

The current motion regarding dissertation credits goes to vote in May's Grad Council meeting.

There was also discussion to further allow programs to reduce the coursework for Ph.D.s from 60 to 42 (making minimum 42 course work + 18 dissertation = 60).

Ongoing discussion of reduction to coursework

- Ph.D. report recommended consideration of reduction from minimum 60 to minimum 42 credit hours.
- Strong interest in reducing coursework across various colleges and PhD programs of different sizes
- Various stakeholders in different colleges, as well as administration, remain concerned with aspects of this proposal

However, this is not the current motion on the table. The provost needs to speak to other stakeholders, this will be discussed further.

Reallocation of Rumble Fellowships is being reviewed by the Grad Council – new metric will be used to reallocate Rumbles on a three-year rolling basis. The total number of

Rumble Fellowships will remain at 100. Colleges/Schools are weighted more heavily for Rumbles based on Ph.D. production.

Reallocation of Rumble fellowships

- Proposal presented in February, revised in April to account for various requested changes to funding model.
- Remains focused on two metrics: Ph.D. program size and number of graduates – as basis for a three-year rolling average allocation of Rumbles to schools and colleges.
- Vote taken in April had majority support but there was insufficient quorum of Grad Council members – a new vote is expected in May.

Academic Senate Report

Ongoing discussions about Foreign Influence Policy to ensure we are following federal law regarding funded research involving foreign collaborators and activities; still a bit of uncertainty on when faculty need to have approval to travel to certain countries; their website needs to be updated.

Early and ongoing work towards hiring of SVP for business affairs and SVP for health affairs, hiring of new vice provost for enrollment management, Dr. Charles Cotton.

Extensive and continuing discussions of Student Code of Conduct revisions to account for recent advances in artificial intelligence, and via ChatGPT – proof of cheating is hard to prove.

President Espy attended Apr. 3 plenary and presented on the College to Career initiative Ongoing discussion of revised Campus Plan (used to be called Master Plan) in light of changing use of campus buildings since the 2019 report, some buildings underutilized and selling some real estate, as a cost-saving method.

Ongoing discussion of the School of Public Health, for which many of the working groups still have not met.

Formation of new “Year of Focus” on civil discourse dialogue and debate for 2024-25, with working group formed to build a set of co-curricular events on campus to engage students and faculty.

Report from the Faculty Council – Dean’s Office: Jenn Wareham

CLAS election results for 2024 have been sent out to everyone, article XXX nominations still being accepted. Faculty Council minutes are posted on the CLAS webpage at clas.wayne.edu/faculty-staff/committees/minutes.

Since the last CLAS FAC Assembly FC on Feb. 27, FC has discussed its usual business items related to programmatic changes, (which are being presented for a vote today), at its March and April meeting. The minutes from the former are online and April minutes are pending approval at the upcoming FC meeting is May.

CLAS elections were a major event, the results of which are now available. Many thanks to Caroline for doing a stellar job and keeping things simple for the CLAS Elections Committee. We are now seeking nominations of the article XXX committees.

At our March meeting, Mark Wolf presented information and outlooks for CLAS financials. While other campuses across the country are going through some upheavals with department and program closures and consolidations, CLAS is working diligently to avoid these. This I hopefully will be achieved by certain cost-cutting measures and by growing M.A. programs.

Curriculum Items for vote: Lori Pile

- Undergraduate Certificate in Practical German – voted and approved.
- Undergraduate Certificate in Practical Italian – voted and approved.
- Employment Labor Relations B.A. – voted and approved.
- Employment Labor Relations M.A. – voted and approved.
- Creative writing minor – voted and approved.
- English minor – voted and approved.

Report from the Dean, Stephanie Hartwell

CLAS P&T results are in and all of the college’s cases were approved.

During this term, the college’s committees met: DEI, Recruitment, Center/Program Directors and CLAS Research Group.

Working on growing master's degrees in the college.

Departments will work on their strategic plans in assisting with hiring for the upcoming AY24/25.

A few new chairs will be starting this fall term, an announcement will be forthcoming.

Enrollments in CLAS steady, we are doing a postcard campaign to send notices out to student admits.

The development team is working hard and has met their goals of \$7 million at this time.

During this summer, methodology core will be reviewed via the social science departments.

Matters arising

Can academic staff have a reserved seat for at least one academic staff member representing CLAS on Academic Senate. The Academic Senate bylaws will have to be reviewed and Professor Chrisomalis will mention it to Professor Beale.