

Graduate Council
November 6, 2015
Minutes

Discussion of the Bioengineering New Degrees Proposal

A PDF file of the core of the proposal (see [Bioeng.pdf](#)) and the review by Jim Coakley and Sourabh Apte (see [BioE Rev SA JC 2.pdf](#)) are attached. The full proposal is available at <https://secure.oregonstate.edu/ap/cps/proposals/view/92511>, as sent previously.

- The proposal meets all requirements; it is an interdisciplinary program; the only other Oregon program is at OSHU, and they provided a letter of support; and there is no basis for admissions (GRE or TOEFL).
- Brenda contacted the graduate dean at OHSU who noted that there is certainly more room for this type of program.
- OSU Biological Engineering is unhappy with about the name. BioEngineering is distinct from Biological Engineering and implies health and human sciences. OHSU ruled out BioMedical Engineering (they would have had a different response). Sourabh noted that other institutions use Bioengineering. There is already a Biological and Ecological Engineering program. Jim noted it may be worthwhile to note this in the CPS.

Action Jim moved to approve the proposal; motion seconded and approved with no dissenting votes. Theresa will make a note related to admissions when she approves.

Design and Human Environment Three-year Follow-up Review

- *Three-year Follow-up Review of Action Plan* (see [DHE 3yr Rpt 3.pdf](#))
- *DHE Response and Action Plan – Undergraduate and Graduate Program Review Recommendations* (see [DHE UPR GPR Resp.pdf](#))

Program review recap: After a formal 10-year review, the unit produces an Action Plan; three years after acceptance of the Action Plan, there is a follow-up review. The internal review member discusses progress on the Action Plan with the unit head. In this case, the three-year follow-up was missed.

- It was noted that, at the time of the 10-year review, the School of Design & Human Environment (DHE) was moving out of the College of Public Health and Human Sciences (CPHHS) to the College of Business (COB). There was a relatively small, but barely adequate, graduate faculty. It was recommended to restructure, go through an intensive strategic plan process when moving to the COB, and incorporate Graphic Design into the program. In the interim, there was a faculty issue that caused internal strife among the graduate students; it is a program in crisis. Theresa met with the graduate advisor who was initially unaware of the strategic plan. The associate dean, dean, and program director were supportive of suspending admissions, which occurred several weeks ago. The program will focus on two areas of concentration, and faculty will be required to reconcile among themselves. Theresa recommends that when the School feels they are ready to resume admissions, they contact the Graduate Council (GC). The GC needs to vote to suspend so the School will be required to contact the GC to lift the suspension.

Discussion:

- Because there is a very small number of faculty left in the school, are there faculty in DHE who are not working in the two areas and will not be utilized in those two areas? The long-term vision is that there will be faculty who will not be in these two areas, but this will be discussed at strategic planning. Because they are in the COB, they can draw on other faculty who can support these two programs. Will faculty be left out in the cold? Perhaps. The School will be abolished. In COB there are other disciplines, and there is now Merchandising, Interior Design, and Apparel. If the

former school moves toward a design focus, it will be up to the faculty to determine how to refocus. If it's done right, students from all over campus will take courses; there is a path to move forward.

- Courses will be available to students who need them to complete a degree; the majority of students will finish by next spring. The COB is trying to enable them to create a design certificate which would require a series of courses, and courses across campus could be included in the certificate. Once the certificate core is developed, those involved can work with other faculty across campus. Interior Design is a strong program and will continue.
- Regarding concerns from graduate students expressed to the Graduate School – were they internal or other issues? Brenda stated there were other issues that were handled.
- What are the budgetary implications? Hsiou-Lien Chen will continue to serve as program director. From Theresa's perspective, no additional administrative FTE is needed. There are eight faculty, and the majority are excited about the restructuring. It's possible that OSU could have the only Design MBA on the West Coast.
- Another option may be to remove graduate faculty status from some faculty.
- In the past, graduate faculty have been told who will be on a committee, with no input from the student. An associate dean must now approve all committees before the members are submitted to the Graduate School.

Action: Ryan moved to accept the report; motion seconded and passed with no dissenting votes and one abstention.

Action: Lisa moved to suspend admissions related to the DHE graduate program and, prior to reinstatement, the Graduate Council must approve removal of the suspension based on documentation forwarded to and approved by the Graduate Council; motion seconded and approved with one abstention.

It was noted that, if renamed and restructured, an abbreviated Category I proposal will be required.

Nutrition Three-year Follow-up Review (see [Nutrition 3-yr follow-up 2.pdf](#))

- It was determined that the unit is making adequate progress on the Action Plan. There were no additional concerns from the Graduate Council. It was noted but no concern was expressed that fewer students are graduating than what is recommended by the Provost.

Action: Jim moved to accept the report; motion seconded and passed with no dissenting votes.

Potential OSU-Cascades Representation

- Theresa suggested that the Council consider an identified individual from OSU-Cascades, either as an ex-officio, non-voting member or a voting member. The Council discussed whether to request the Cascades-based graduate coordinator as either a non-voting, ex-officio member or a voting faculty member, on the condition that they represent OSU-Cascades rather than their academic home.

Action: It was decided to invite Julie Gess-Newsome to participate as a guest ex-officio, non-voting member from OSU-Cascades. The Graduate Council will revisit in April to determine whether to formalize the OSU-Cascades representative as either a non-voting, ex-officio member or a voting member.

Category II Proposals

Theresa reminded Graduate Council members to check the CPS (Curriculum Proposal System) because there are Category IIs languishing in the system.

Epigeum

One Council member is skeptical of the comment that more than a self-assessment is needed. What is the option other than self-assessment? It was suggested to wait for Dorthe Wildenschild to bring a small group assessment back to the Council to discuss issues after the pilot group finishes. Brenda noted that it will be up to the Graduate Council to determine how the Epigeum modules will be used.

Upcoming Meetings: The next meeting will be November 20; the meeting next week is canceled. David can't be present until 3:00; meet from 2:30-3:30 and begin the Data Analytics review when David is present.

Minutes recorded by Vickie Nunnemaker, Faculty Senate staff