Graduate Council Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2014

Members Present:  Anderson, Kelly – Special Ed and Child Development  
Fodor, Anthony – Bioinformatics and Genomics  
Freitag, Alan – Communication Studies and Council Chair  
Hildreth, John – Engineering Technology and Construction Management  
Howarth, T. Joe – GPSG Student Representative  
Makas, Emily – School of Architecture  
McCarter, Susan – Social Work  
Sell, Susan – Sr Associate Dean, Graduate School (alternate for Tom Reynolds, Dean)  
Walker, Judy – Atkins Library  
Webster, Murray - Sociology  
Wiggins, Casper – Accounting (alternate for Peter Schwarz, Econ)

Also Attending:  Sell, Susan  
Watson, Johnna – Graduate School

Absent:  Davies, Angela – Physics and Optical Science (alternate not available)  
Hicks, Cheryl – History (conflict arose too late to contact alternate)

I.  Report of the Chair

Chair Freitag asked the Committee for a change in the order of agenda items to discuss Item III after the approval of the September meeting minutes. The Council agreed.

- Approval of the September 2, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Chair Freitag called for a motion to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. Wiggins made the motion with a second from Webster. The motion was approved unanimously.

This item was discussed in Item I under the Chair’s Report.

III.  Course and Curriculum Proposals

A.  Appendix C: Request for Authorization to establish a new degree program – Doctor of Business Administration

B.  BCOB 09-26-2014: Establishment of a Professional Doctor of Business Administration

This is an exhaustively detailed proposal for a program that appears to fill a critical gap for the region and the state. The proposal is backed by extensive research demonstrating its efficacy. Letters of endorsement from top executives strengthen an
already well-conceived proposal. I have several comments and questions, but none that would prevent this proposal from moving forward. They are:

1. In paragraph B.2. (p.4) of the proposal, please clarify the GPA requirement. Does it refer to master's level only? Is the GMAT required and is there a required minimum score?

2. On pp.8-9 of the proposal, I recommend adjusting the table in the MS Word version so rows do not break between pages. Also in this table, what do the designations "F" and "P" indicate? It appears "P" is never used, so why are the initials needed? Also, what do the initials "D," "UN," "UT" and "G" indicate? Perhaps the table should include a legend.

3. Is it the case that none of the proposed classes have prerequisites? May they be taken in any order?

4. I have the same concerns expressed in the GA letter about faculty coverage. Are you confident you can initiate this program with no new faculty? What will motivate current faculty to teach overages going forward? Are you certain you can undertake the arduous task of guiding 10-15 dissertations at a time?

Section IV.C of Appendix A states that no new faculty are needed. However, section XI.A states that the program anticipates hiring two new faculty members and the costs associated with these new faculty members are included in the budget for years 2 and following. This same inconsistency is also found in section III.G of the long form.

5. You imply that this is a part-time program (or am I wrong about that?), yet you require that students take three classes (9 credits) per semester, which is considered full time at the graduate level. Please clarify.

6. P.103 of the proposal refers to "year of residency" (3rd line). Is this the correct term to use?

7. Please confirm there are no comprehensive exams.

Is the planned student evaluation appropriate for a doctorate level program? In all of the provided syllabi, at least 40 percent (and as much as 60 percent) of the course grade is based on attendance, participation, and/or discussion. Six of the course syllabi indicate 40 to 50 percent of the course grade is based on a single paper and presentation. These seem to be inordinate portions of the course grade. There are no exams in any courses?

8. The "Residency Requirement" on p.103 of the proposal is confusing.

9. What evidence is there that this program will generate new research funding streams as claimed?

10. In Appendix C, you describe other EDBA programs. Do any of those programs offer on-line options?

11. In Appendix A of Appendix C (confusing, I know), I don't fully understand the table on p.11. What does the list have to do with Fortune 500 companies?
12. There is no syllabus included for the BDBA 8350 course.

13. Once the program is fully implemented, will every course be offered every year?

14. SLO1 is to be measured in three courses (p 106 of long form), but the Introduction to Business Research Methods course is not included in the curriculum. Is this to be the Research Methods I or II course, or perhaps the Introduction to Experimental Design and Measurement course?

Chair Freitag called for a motion to approve pending revisions. Hildreth made the motion with a second from Anderson. The motion was approved unanimously.

I. Continued – Report of the Chair

   o Faculty Fellow - Chair Freitag communicated that he has been asked to be a Faculty Fellow with the Graduate School in the spring 2015. His charge is to build liaisons with separating military veterans. He will work with Disability Services, the Counseling Center on campus and non-profit corporations for internship and mentorship opportunities off campus. The new Veterans Center just opened on campus in Barnard October 13, 2014. Chair Freitag asked the Council if there was any concern over a conflict of interest with his participation as a Faculty Fellow and continuing as chair of the Graduate Council. The Council’s overall response was “no”.

   o Vote on Graduate Faculty By-laws

   o Chair Freitag sent the revised version to the Council for their review for discussion.

   o Council still undecided on number of representatives from each college to serve on the Graduate Council. Subcommittee proposed two from each college and one to represent Interdisciplinary Programs.

   o Chair Freitag asks the Council to take these revisions back to their colleges and be ready to discuss at the next Council meeting.

II. Report of the Dean

Susan Sell attended in Dean Reynolds’ absence. She reported on a recommendation for a 3% tuition increase for the fall 2015 for UNC Charlotte (not system-wide) to compensate for administration load for UG/Graduate Enrollment Management. There is also some discussion on replacing the graduation application fee with a $100 matriculation fee.

Johnna Watson reported on efforts to increase Graduate Certificate Programs. The Graduate School worked on a certificate campaign over the summer (June-Aug) to add enrollment to these programs. Plans are to run another campaign in the spring 2015 in the Charlotte, Triangle and Tri-Ad regions. The Chancellor has pledged support for these initiatives.

Watson also reported on the Accelerated Master’s Program (formerly the Bachelor’s/Master’s Program). Students are admitted to this program as freshmen. Students must score 1700 on the SAT with a 3.5 GPA. Students will apply in the spring of their freshman year.
IV. Other Business

There being no other business, Chair Freitag called for the meeting to be adjourned. McCarter made the motion with a second from Anderson.

The meeting adjourned at 1:17pm.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2014 in Cato Hall, Room 228 at 12 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Parks
Secretary to the Graduate Council