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Catawba College

GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING

October 9, 2018 11:00 a.m.
ADMIN 235

Agenda

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The Graduate Council met in ADMIN 235 at 11 a.m. Attending the meeting were Kim Creamer, Chair, Duane Aagard, Katherine Baker, Victor Romano, Darin Spencer, Jim Stringfield, Pam Thompson, John Zerger, Valerie Rakes.

Old Business

A motion was forwarded by Victor Romano to approve the minutes for the September 18, 2018 meeting and seconded by John Zerger. The minutes were approved unanimously.

New Business

The committee reviewed the submission for the MSADA program.

Kim Creamer, chair, opened the meeting by discussing the rubric which was posted on Blackboard. We will go through the rubrics and consolidate into one rubric for the council. The final rubric will be forwarded to the originator for the program request with comments.

Overall Proposal

John Zerger had some issues with the section "Course/program aligns with the proposing academic discipline and faculty expertise." He believes that the math department does not have faculty that are qualified to teach the courses. Darin Spencer pointed out that the SACS qualifications are very detailed as far as hours required to teach a graduate class. Pam Thompson pointed out that Sharon has the documents assigning Doug Brown and Katherine Baker to teach some of the courses. Darin believes that we need clarification in detail about what the requirements are for instructors from SACS. There was general discussion following. Consensus is that we need a list of detailed requirements from SACS.

Victor Romano wanted to discuss the requirement "The course/program description reflects the overall learning objectives/outcomes of the course/program." He believes that the information is not sufficient to match up (4 goals and 2 learning objectives) the program description needs to match the goals listed in more detail. Jim Stringfield agreed that we should make sure that there is clear alignment between all of the courses and the program learning outcomes.   Victor's solution would be to include all of the

learning outcomes from the courses in the learning outcomes for the program and in the program description. There was general discussion about this item.

Kim brought up that we have two options. The committee will discuss all comments then decide if we do not approve based on discussion or just point out to originator that they will probably need to do this. Jim thought maybe we could recommend this for this program and then require it going forward. The committee reached a consensus to do that.

Victor also feels that for the section "Course/program nomenclature will not result in confusion with and/or does not duplicate existing programs/courses.", that with the way the pre-requisites are laid out, the numbering of the courses does not make sense. Although they are listed in order, the order might confuse students. Pam believed that this is a number issue and easily fixed. The numbers may have to do with sub-categories. She also explained that some classes are blocked out as 8 weeks (5100 and 5200) and some are 16 weeks (5310). These are put together to make up 9 hours for the semester. Consensus was reached to clarify this with the originator.

Although Jay Bolin was not present for the meeting, he raised the question (through Duane Aagard) about the presence of a concentration. He would like to know if there will be a second concentration. John and Pam both stated there are two being considered now so there will be others later. John also pointed out that all of the programs at other institutions that he has looked at had concentrations.

Program Viability

Pamela Thompson has serious concerns about this whole section. She believes the college needs to do a much more detailed look at other colleges in the area and what they are doing. She believes that an MBA with a concentration in Data Analytics would be better. Darin believes that it needs to be on the record that we did due diligence and research into programs in the area.

Kim read Earl's statement about library resources. He has concerns about the level of available journal articles.

Jim wants more details about what scholarly online journals are available and what the cost for them will be. He is concerned that since the data resources are electronic, they might just go away.

Victor – has an issue with each course having the same description of resources needed.

Pam – believes that we need to separate data from journals. This is an applied degree and therefore has fewer research journals required. She still believes that a list of the journals available would be good. She believes that the given data sources are solid.

There was more general discussion about this section and it was agreed that further discussion was needed during the next meeting.

The meeting concluded at 11:50 am. The next meeting is scheduled on Oct. 23rd at 11:00 am.