

Present: Becky da Cruz, Herb Fiester, Linda Most, David Nelson, Kelly Heckaman, Matt Carter, Grazyna Walczak (proxy for Luis Bejarano), Maren Clegg-Hyer (proxy for Dixie Haggard), Keith Lee, Meagan Arrastia-Chisholm, Michelle Ritter, Mitch Lockhart, Zhong Lin, Matt Grant, Nancy Swanson, Anne Price, Ellis Heath, Peggy Moch, Christopher Downing,

Guests: Corine Myers-Jennings, Darrell Ross, Ernest Smith, Heather Kelley, Natalie Kuhlmann, Deborah Robinson, Rudy Prine, Ofelia Nikolova, Jessica Cid, Sonja Jenkins, Justin Sanchez

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Becky da Cruz at 2:00 pm.

Minutes from February 18, 2021 were approved. Ellis Heath motioned to approve. Peggy Moch seconded. 15 voted to approve.

Revised Catalog Copy – EDUC 2999 (satisfactory grade requirement and update content): Clarify the timing of meeting the EDUC 2999 satisfactory grade requirement and update content. Linda Most motioned to approve. David Nelson seconded. 18 voted to approve. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Revised Catalog Copy – Master of Science in Marriage and Family Therapy (GRE requirement update): 1) Increasingly, universities across the United States are dropping the GRE as a necessary and informative marker for admission into graduate school. This is true of VSU as well, per my conversation with Dr. da Cruz. The primary reason is that seems to be no/little correlation between GRE scores and students' ability to succeed in graduate school (<https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0169121>). This can be verified by a quick Google search where dozens of sites and publications discuss the suspension of the GRE test in higher education and the reasons for this change. 2) As a field that deals wholly in human relationship, personality, interactional behavior, decision-making, and the art and science of change, a quantitative test of verbal and mathematics skills is inappropriate for a Family Therapy graduate program. Linda Most motioned to approve. Ellis Heath seconded. 18 voted to approve. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Request for a New Course – CSD 5300: Diagnosis and Correction of Reading Difficulties: Two syllabus were attached. Removed Structured Literacy Instruction syllabus – will present thi 0 0 1 442.75 110.06

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Request for a Revised Course – CRJU 7000: Revising entire curriculum. Through self-study and looking at other agencies, BOR schools, and schools across country we are focusing more on the practical side vs. theoretical side (supervision management, risk assessment, personnel, etc.). There will still be theoretical courses but moving more to practical due to self-study. No thesis but a research policy course vs. just a research paper. Criminal Justice Administration: See the general degree revision justification. This revision fits within the overall revisions to the MSCJ program, which includes recommendations from a CJ advisory board and a survey of CJ professionals. Ellis Heath motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. 17 voted to approve. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Request for a New Course – CRJU 7020: Revising entire curriculum. Through self-study and looking at other agencies, BOR schools, and schools across country we are focusing more on the practical side vs. theoretical side (supervision management, risk assessment, personnel, etc.). Leadership and Ethics for the Criminal Justice Executive: See the general degree revision justification. The recommendation to create this course and to restructure the MSCJ degree is in accordance with the CJ advisory committee recommendations for criminal justice professionals and what they need to be successful. Ellis Heath motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. 17 voted to approve. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Request for a Revised Course – CRJU 7370: Revising entire curriculum. Through self-study and looking at other agencies, BOR schools, and schools across country we are focusing more on the practical side vs. theoretical side (supervision management, risk assessment, personnel, etc.). Ethics and Legal Issues: See the general degree revision justification. The course remains a required course and specifically addresses civil liability issues in criminal justice. The CJ advisory committee members and survey respondents rank this subject matter as the number one issue/course requiring inclusion within the overall degree. The ethics of the criminal justice administrator

across country we are focusing more on the practical side vs. theoretical side (supervision management, risk assessment, personnel, etc.). This course was an elective course and now will be a required course consistent with the revised administrative focus. Organizational policies and programs are implemented with frequent occurrence with little emphasis on field

criminal justice organizations face many domestic and international terrorism threats. Approaches to identifying and responding to the nature of terrorism is an ongoing process. The course addresses strategies and approaches to threat mitigation and developing appropriate practices to respond. Ellis Heath motioned to approve. Nancy Swanson seconded. 17 voted to approve. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Request for a New Course – CRJU 7920: Criminal Justice Policy Research: Revising entire curriculum. Through selfed unanimously.

Graduate Student Success – Dr. Downing updated that there is a survey after discussion with the sub-committee about graduate student orientation. Also met with AGS and got good feedback regarding networking opportunities as well as things that they would like to change in their programs. Asked what we could do to make them more comfortable, etc. Thursday March 25th @ 2PM the task force will be held for faculty and students to help coordinate orientation (portion will be online and a portion will be in person). If you are interested in Student Success and joining the team the meeting is April 1st @ 2PM. Email Dr. Downing if you have any questions.

Doctoral Program Sub-Committee – Dr. da Cruz updated. The sub-committee discussed the thesis and dissertation format guidelines (general guidelines). We wanted to have a general guideline (not cornering any program) and transparency for students to know what formats are available for them to use. Dr. Maren Clegg-Hyer raised the concern that English and History had some concerns regarding the structure (in the sense that they aren't a social science), there would be intro and conclusion but formatting will not match the formatting. Dr. da Cruz indicated that we could include the other formatting guidelines from the English department (general format). Dr. Clegg-Hyer will send over and we will update the guideline document. We will continue editing the document and will circulate around and bring back in April for voting and discussion. We have been working with Stanley regarding IP's and trying to see if we can assign another grade (example "Z"). We are keeping these discussions going. Many of our doctoral programs have been cleaning up those students who have had IP's for many semesters and have assigned grades to those students (starting fresh and implementing protocols regarding successfully working toward progress for an "S" in their dissertation hours courses).

Graduate Appeals – N/A

Graduate Faculty Scholarship – Spring 2021 applications have been reviewed.

Committee voted (5 out of 5) to approve 7 applications for a total of \$3,402.

- o Limited funding, no travel (registration for teleconference, etc.), update on approved funding applications (approx. \$4,360 for Fall 2020 over 9 apps) – Total for FY21=\$7,762 awarded (16 apps)

Graduate Faculty Membership – Applications due March 12th, sub-committee is meeting March 25th to discuss and vote. Will bring to April GEC for vote.

1. Graduation Application – Dr. da Cruz updated. Students are applying through new DocuSign application. There have been some glitches but they have been remediated. If you notice any other issues, please let us know and we can get to Pepper Croft if you are able to get to her directly. Dr. Most mentioned that the curriculum checklist is still an issue.
2. Graduate Symposium – Dr. da Cruz updated. It will be fully virtual with 3 musical performances, the GA of the Year as a part of it, student alumni will be keynote, 42 poster session nominations and 13 3MT submissions. 3MT, music performance, and

keynote will be video files. Poster session will have breakouts for discussion. We will have an awards ceremony at the end for the top 3 posters and top three 3MT. <https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/graduate-school/research/symposium.php>

3. Graduate Assistantships –