



UNIVERSITY OF GUAM

Environmental Sciences Graduate Program

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**MINUTES
EVS FACULTY MEETING
31 March 2009
12:00-1:00 PM, CNAS Room 104**

Called to order: 12:05 PM

Attending: Brown, Golabi, Gong, Jenson, Khosrowpanah, Lander, Lobban, Luo, Miller, Wall, Wen

Chair: Golabi

Recorder/timekeeper: Jenson

I. Opening Items

- A. Approved minutes of previous meeting, 24 Feb 09
- B. Reviewed agenda

II. Reports

- A. Executive Committee: Jenson reported
- B. Recruiting & Admission Committee: Miller reported
- C. Program & Curriculum Committee: Lander reported
- D. Advisory Council: no report

III. Actions

- A. Recruiting & Admission Committee recommendation to the faculty for approval of revised Program Admission Requirements. Contact person: R. Miller, RAC Chair (rmiller@uguam.uog.edu). (Attachment 1)

Summary: The current admission requirements to the EV Program are vague, and have lead to difficulties in assessing the qualifications of applicants. While outstanding students are easy to assess, it is more difficult to gauge the potential for success of students who have deficiencies in their scientific preparation, and whose grades may be in the 2.0 – 3.0 range. The Recruiting & Admission Committee therefore proposes that since we currently have three options under the EV degree (biology-ecology; geosciences-engineering; management) that we tailor our admissions requirements to fit each option. We would therefore require prospective students to identify in their application which option they intend to pursue, and would hold them to the set of admission requirements that fit that option.

Actions taken

- Motion to amend: "That the provisions be implemented beginning with the coming, 2009-2010 academic year." Motion to amend carried.
- Motion "to approve the proposed Program Admission Requirements contained in Attachment 1, as amended," carried. Motion carried.

IV. Presentation of items proposed for future action

The following item was presented and discussed. It is anticipated that it will be on the agenda for action at the next scheduled meeting.

- A. Amendment to Program Bylaws. Contact person: M. Golabi, Program Chair (mgolabi@uguam.uog.edu) (Attachment 2)

Summary: On 27 January 2009, the Environmental Science Faculty adopted its bylaws, which specify program-specific requirements for membership. On 16 March, 2009, the Assistant Vice President for Graduate Studies and Sponsored Programs advised the Graduate Faculty of her intent to develop university-wide criteria for membership in the Graduate Faculty, to be based on the advice of the newly formed Graduate Council. This amendment will explicitly acknowledge that meeting general, university-wide criteria is prerequisite to being admitted to the program faculty under its specific criteria.

Action Sought: Faculty approval.

V. Other Business

The following items were discussed:

- A. EVS Faculty Executive Committee Resource Statement. Contact person: M. Golabi, Program Chair (mgolabi@uguam.uog.edu) (Attachment 3)

Summary: On 9 March 2009, President Underwood invited the EV Science faculty to provide him with a "Resource Statement" to describe "what we would need as a program to graduate 20 more or 40 more students in the next five years, professors and facilities included." The executive committee has prepared a draft, based on faculty responses to date. We should finalize this list by the April meeting so that we can send a faculty-approved list to the President's office by that time.

Action Sought: Faculty advice. Based on faculty advice, the Executive Committee will finalize the letter and forward it to the President.

- Suggestion was offered that the letter include some advice regarding the need for offering graduate assistantships in teaching as well as research.

- B. Election of program officers for AY2009-2010 at 28 April meeting.

V. Adjourned at 1:00 PM

Attachments

1. RAC Proposed Revision to Admission Requirements
2. Amendment to Program Bylaws
3. Draft Executive Committee Resource Statement for UOG President