

Minutes of CGSR Meeting #22 on 4/2/2018

The Committee on Graduate Studies and Research (CGSR) its 22nd meeting of AY '17/'18 on April 2, 2018 (Monday) in Library Rm 303.

Present: K Troy (Chair), A. Weishaar (GS), R. Rao, A. Zeng, K. McAdams (Academic Program), G. Fischer, M. Timko, T. Camesano (Dean of Graduate Studies), S. Miles (Registrar),

Absent: B. Vernescu (Vice Provost for Research), M. McGrade (Graduate Admission), S. Scarlata

Guests: F. Miller (FBS), A. Heinricher (Dean of Undergraduate Studies)

Professor Troy called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM

1. Approved minutes from meeting #21 of 3/26/2018 with minor revisions
2. Discussed Proposed Revision of the Curriculum of the Master of Business Administration (MBA) Degree
 - a. Goal is to focus the MBA program to build on WPI's strengths as a technological university and focuses on bringing value to STEM professionals.
 - i. Emphasize identified deficiencies including enhancing soft skills & financial skills
 - ii. Differentiate our program with a focus for STEM professionals
 - b. Suggestion was made by CGSR to clarify motion to clearly identify new courses, course removals/replacements, and degree requirement changes.
3. Discussed motion by CAP/CGSR to modify the current student course report forms and to approve on-line distribution of the modified form.
 - a. Task Force has met to discuss moving from paper to all-online course evaluations starting w/ A'18 and shortening the survey. This would be implemented as a 3-year pilot.
 - b. CGSR discussed clarifying the Rationale for the motion
 - c. CAP has previously endorsed the motion and CGSR voted to co-endorse the motion subject to enhanced Rationale.
4. Discussed motion on behalf of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry to edit the PhD Degree Requirements in Chemistry and Biochemistry in the University Graduate Handbook.
 - a. CGSR suggested clarifications to ambiguity in the requirements.
 - b. CGSR voted to approve pending the suggested changes
5. Discussed motion on behalf of the Chemical Engineering Department to create new course CHE 509: Reactor Design and Kinetics.
 - a. CGSR suggested minor updates to the text of the motion
 - b. CGSR voted to approve the motion for a new course pending the suggested changes
6. Discussed motion on behalf of the Chemical Engineering Department to remove the courses CHE 506: Kinetics and Catalysis, CHE 507: Chemical Reactor Design, CHE 573: Separation Processes, and CHE 574: Fluid Mechanics.
 - a. CGSR suggested text to clarify the motion
 - b. CGSR voted to approve the motion to remove 3 courses pending the suggested changes

7. Discussed motion on behalf of the Chemical Engineering Department that the titles and descriptions of the chemical engineering courses CHE 504, CHE 561, and CHE 571 be revised.
 - a. CGSR voted to approve the motion to revise 3 course titles and/or descriptions
8. Discussed motion on behalf of the Chemical Engineering Department that the description of chemical engineering core courses be updated.
 - a. CGSR suggested minor clarification to text.
 - b. CGSR voted to approve the motion to update the core courses designations pending the suggested changes.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Gregory Fischer
CGSR secretary (D18)