College of Business, Graduate Committee

Meeting Minutes

December 1, 2010


Guest: Sherry Mills  Excused Absence: K. Brook

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. on Wednesday, December 1, 2010 in room 246 of the Business Complex.

II. Discussion

- Sherry Mills continued discussing the unfinished items in the MBA – Report on Assessment Results NMSU College of Business – Spring, 2010.
- Quantitative Analysis was problematic this semester as 2 faculty members had different assessment of the problem. Under AOL this requires same assessment/assignment & weighting. A suggestion was made to wait on this until AOL Committee gives more direction to the GC.
- Critical thinking: CoB is not moving fast enough on curriculum changes. For example CT next goal to be changed - MKTG 503 uses case analysis – results not good as different cases used making it hard to asses. According to Gerry 3 classes of MKTG 503 have used the same case. However, beyond that semester Gerry is not teaching the class. GC consensus that CT is a problem at the graduate level & there is a need for improvement. It was questioned whether course syllabi outline the course objective in example 3 – what do professors do in their classes to teach CT? It will be up to GC to fill in the holes. This will include: 1) Include CT in the syllabi as an objective; 2) Talk to graduate MBA faculty to find out what they do in class to teach skills of CT; and 3) GC to pull this information together to determine the degree of faculty emphasis on CT – deadline of 1/31/2011 in which all MBA faculty will describe how they develop the 3 objectives in CT in their students.
- Sherry Mills presented a proposal on changing BA 590. The current challenge is the grading system of Pass/Fail for graduate students as she sees it. This should be separate from the presentation/paper aspect of BA 590. On the date of the exam when the group oral presentation is finished Sherry proposes a second phase of the BA 590 examination – in effect a second oral exam. MBA students would go into a separate room as individuals to be asked questions. This would demonstrate how capable the MBA students are. Sherry proposed that the course grade on the presentation/paper given by the reviewers and the oral exam grade are to be separated.
- Two members of the GC expressed concern as to what would happen if a student fails the individual oral and would this force the team process? Another GC member thought this new method of grading should perhaps be phased in gradually. With an individual oral component to BA 590 a student could fail the course. Also discussed was the need for ACCT 503, BLAW 502, FIN 503 & MKTG 503 to be prerequisites to BA 590 starting in FA 2011.
- Tom McGuckin will write up formal proposal to these changes in BA 590 and draft to members of the GC for their feedback. The changes to BA 590 will be presented by Tom at the spring semester Convocation on January 11th 2011 to the faculty for their vote.

III. Adjournment

Tom McGuckin adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m. The next GC meeting will be held in the spring semester 2011 at a date to be determined.

Minutes submitted by: John Shonk, Secretary