Committee on Academic Programs (CAP)
November 19, 2013


Call to Order
Michelle Brattain called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in Room 718, Langdale Hall

Approval of Minutes
The minutes of September 17, 2013 meeting were approved as distributed.

Motion from Undergraduate Council to approve an Undergraduate Geographic Information Science Certificate
Michelle Brattain led the discussion and presented the motion to approve an Undergraduate Geographic Information Science Certificate submitted by the College of Arts and Sciences. Geographic Information Science (GIS) is a rapidly growing discipline, with applications in many fields. A strong demand exists for proficient users of geospatial technology. The undergraduate-level Certificate Program in GIS is designed to facilitate the learning of GIS by students working toward undergraduate degrees in Geosciences and in many other disciplines. The Certificate Program consists of four courses with a total of 15 credit hours. The committee unanimously approved the motion.

Motion from Graduate Council to approve a Substantive Change Request to the Master of Science in Real Estate program
Kathryn McClymond led the discussion and presented the motion for a substantive change to the Master of Science in Real Estate program submitted by J. Mack Robinson College of Business. Request to change required credit hours for completion of degree to 30 credit hours [from 36]. This change would resolve two existing curriculum issues with the M.S.R.E. program, and make the total credit hours more consistent with other M.S.R.E. programs nationally. The real estate industry has experienced a period of rapid change over the last few years, with increased demand for practitioners who possess comprehensive real estate education. As graduate real estate education needs have changed, a number of real estate programs have sprung up recently to satisfy demand, with many offering 30-32 credit hour specialized Master programs that cater to working professionals. The committee unanimously approved the motion.

Motion from Graduate Council to approve a Graduate Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
Kathryn McClymond led the discussion and presented the motion to approve a Graduate Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) submitted by the College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Applied Linguistics & ESL. The Graduate Certificate in TESOL allows both non-degree seeking and degree seeking students the opportunity to receive a certificate indicating their training and acquisition of appropriate skills to teach English as a second or foreign language. The TESOL field has
been rapidly expanding since the 1970s and persistent growth in job and educational opportunities are expected to continue as English remains a worldwide Lingua Franca and local and national governments, non-governmental, and corporations continue to support English language education. The Graduate TESOL certificate will be awarded to students who successfully complete a series of five graduate courses offered by the Department of Applied Linguistics & ESL. The Graduate TESOL Certificate is an entry-level credential for those who plan short-term stays overseas or who are interested in employment in adult schools, private language institutes, or non-profit organizations that offer adult English language courses. Students who are interested in a sustained career in teaching college-level EFL/ESL will need to have more extensive education as offered at the master’s degree level. This certificate program is developed as an internal and external certificate; therefore, all students enrolled as graduate students at Georgia State University are eligible for the certificate program. The certificate is available to both full and part time students. The committee unanimously approved the motion.

Motion from Graduate Council to approve a Master’s in Occupational Therapy Program
Kathryn Mcclymond led the discussion and presented the motion for approval of a Master of Occupational Therapy program submitted by The Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions. Margaret Wilmoth elaborated on the program. The Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions at Georgia State University is proposing to add a master’s entry-level program in Occupational Therapy (OT) to meet the needs of Georgia’s growing population. Currently, there is one state-funded master’s entry OT program which is at Georgia Regents University and one program at Brenau University, a private university. This Master’s entry OT program, if approved, will support the need for additional workforce capacity in the health care industry. The interdisciplinary focus of the proposed program at Georgia State will rely on biological and health sciences for its core and will have a curriculum that articulates with the Master of Science programs already in place in the Lewis School. By year 5, the proposed program will enroll approximately 40 students each year. The committee unanimously approved the motion.

Motion from Graduate Council to approve a Concentration in Religion and Nonprofit Management
Kathryn Mcclymond led the discussion and presented the motion for approval of a concentration in Religion and Nonprofit Management submitted by the College of Arts and Sciences. The program will be overseen by the appropriate faculty in the Department of Religious Studies in conjunction with the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies (AYSPS) Department of Public Management and Policy. The Concentration will serve as a recruiting tool for the Religious Studies Master’s program and the Nonprofit Management and Social Enterprise Certificate program. It will also address an educational need demonstrated by the employment choices of previous graduates of the Department of Religious Studies. Georgia State University (GSU) is ideally suited to offer an MA concentration in Religion & Nonprofit Management. The Department of Religious Studies program already includes several elements that provide students with experience in the nonprofit world. The Religion and Public Life Fellow program brings Atlanta business and community leaders into partnership with the Department for an academic year. These Fellows teach classes, bring students to their place of work, meet informally with students, and present public lectures that explicitly address how religion plays a role in their specific arena of expertise. The Department Alumni Board has provided liaisons for students with the community, most recently facilitating internship opportunities for students in nonprofit organizations. Finally, the Department has also established an internship course that allows students to receive academic credit for internships coupled with intellectual reflection guided by a TT faculty member. These programmatic elements were designed explicitly to provide supervised work experience for students preparing for careers in the nonprofit sector. The AYSPS Department of Public Management and Policy currently offers a certificate in Nonprofit Management and Social Enterprise. This program trains students in management, economic decision making, and marketing, fundraising, and financial
management. While many Religious Studies students are asked to deploy these skills when they graduate and move on to Nonprofit work, they are not taught these skills in their undergraduate or graduate programs. The Concentration in Religion & Nonprofit Management will bring together two natural intellectual partners who currently exist completely independently. The committee unanimously approved the motion.

Graduate Council Recommendations on Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Graduate Program Administration
Kathryn Mcclymond led the discussion reference the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Graduate Program Administration. The committee recommendation is to involve CAP, Admissions, and By Law Committees who will in turn provide a recommendation to the Senate Committee.

Motion from Graduate Council to approve three PhD Concentrations in Public Health
Shannon Self-Brown led the discussion and presented the motion to approve three PhD concentrations associated with the PhD of Philosophy in Public Health (Epidemiology, Health Services Research, and Health Promotion & Behavior). The committee unanimously approved the motion.

Motion to approve Credit Hour Policy
Sara Weigle led the discussion and presented the motion to approve changes to the credit hour policy in accordance with SACS and Board of Regents policy. Peter Lyons elaborated. Each semester credit hour requires (a) a minimum of 750 minutes of classroom or direct faculty instruction or equivalent and (b) a minimum of 1500 minutes of out of class student work or equivalent. The previous policy on Assignment of Credit Hours is repealed. The committee unanimously approved the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.