



Graduate Council

Metropolitan State University of Denver

Feb. 20, 2020

11:00-12:30 PM

SSB 330 C

MINUTES

Crystal Annan, Ingrid Carter, Shannon Campbell, Amy Middleton, Nicolas Cachanosky, Ann Diker, Henry Jackson, Shaun Schafer, Jenn Capps (for AJ Alejano-Steele), Kim Starr, Connie Sanders (via Phone)

- I. Welcome
 - a. Approval of Minutes
(11:00-11:05)
 - Motion by Kim second by Shaun
 - o Approved
- II. BHAM Curriculum Discussion BHAM 5001 and BHAM 5002
 - a. Reason for the Emergency Review
 - b. Discussion and vote on both courses
(11:05-11:30)

There was a communication issues between OGS and Curriculum and Policy Development, the delay in sending out these courses was not due to negligence on the Clinical Behavioral Health- Emphasis in Addictions program

BHAM- 5001

- Psychology had no comments on this course
- Use of lower level course objectives
 - o Describe is a 2000 level, could they use assess or evaluate?
 - o The accrediting body is dictating the objectives
 - Are the words mandated by the accrediting body?
 - Can they find some similar word within the upper level?
 - Can they ensure there is a majority of upper level adjectives in the objectives?
- What is the concentration for the BHAM curriculum
 - o Is it path between the LPC and APC?
 - Mapping to addictions accrediting body and the professional counselor accrediting body
 - o Recommend to uncheck the concentration box

- Do they want there to be a requirement that only student in the Clinical Behavioral Health- Emphasis in Addictions Counseling can take this course?

Motion to approve with suggestions

- o Kim motioned second by Shaun
- o Approved

BHAM- 5002

- Transcript course is different then title of the course on the proposal
- Same issue with the learning objectives
- Same issue with the concentration
- Typo in the outline II

Motion to approve with suggestions

- o Shaun motioned second by Amy
- o Approved

III. WRGP Information Update

a. Graduate Director Decision

(11:30-11:35)

Students from western states can attend MSU Denver at an instate tuition rate

We are allowed to increase from 100% to 150% as mandated by WRGP

Graduate Directors agreed to keep it at 100%

There is currently only one graduate student, this program has not been advertised

The 100% rate is consistent across most other institutions

IV. Graduate Catalog

(11:35-11:40)

- Must have all revisions by Feb. 28
- Will meet with all groups that have edits during March
- Will bring updated catalog/address questions in March
- Vote in April
- Reminder: Need for catalog is strong

Please let OGS know by the end of next week if there are any other groups that we need to meet with

Bring it back to council in March for a vote in April

Process question on how it gets vetted through Faculty Senate

- Goes through FSCC
- Goes through APC
- FSCC and APC will review it simultaneously
- Read through whole faculty senate twice
 - o Will likely be in fall of 2020
- Informational purpose to president's council (question on if it is an approval or information only)

- This will go into effect for academic year 2021-2022

V. Council discussion re: Statewide 3MT (03-06-2020), National Graduate & Professional Student Appreciation Week (April 6-10,2020), Pinning and Hooding Ceremony Coordination

05/11/2020	MHA Capstone Presentations	12:00-5:00	Christian Living Headquarters
05/13/2020	MAT Capstone Presentations	5:00-6:00	Tivoli 320s
05/13/2020	MAT Hooding	6:00-7:00	Tivoli 320s
05/14/2020	MHA Pinning and Hooding	5:00-7:00	Tivoli 320s
05/14/20	MSW Pinning and Hooding	6:30-8:00	Denver Center for Performing Arts Seawell Ballroom
05/14/2020	MPAcc and MBA Hooding	5:30-7:00	SpringHill Suites by Marriott Denver Downtown

(11:40-11:50)

- Winner of the Three-Minute Talk was Maria Coppersmith-Buschman from the MSW program
- Programs are welcome to supplement the Graduate Student Appreciation Week events.
 - o The MAT program will be bundling snacks for their students they budgeted \$200 for this
- What is the process to ask the Provost to attend hooding and pinning?
 - o Reach out to Ann Sanders (asande15@msudenver.edu 5.5277)

VI. Monthly Deep Dive

- Thoughts/comments from last month
- Graduate Fees

(11:50-12:20)

- People are questioning the need for a bachelor's degree- we will circle back in March.
- The Hanover report demonstrates the need for MSU Denver to examine graduate student fees
- Fee Philosophy Draft
 - o Started by student affairs and added to by the Graduate Leadership committee
 - o Committee believed some of the items proposed by Graduate Leadership was process

- Graduate Leadership wanted to see accountability via internal and external review by EAB
- Need to develop a process for the graduate fees
 - Can we modify or mirror the undergraduate process?
- Are there ways to consider the fee schedule based on access that students have based on being online or at night
 - There is a subcommittee working on this
 - Will make a recommendation on March 3rd
- Cannot look at tri-institutional fees
- Looking at student affairs, campus rec, intercollegiate athletics, Metro bond, RTD fee
- The larger committee is looking at the use of program and course fees
- With the reduction in fees programs could use that savings to benefit the program
- Where will the fee philosophy live?
 - Student fee plan lives in the Budget office, this may live there
 - Includes program fees
- Is there a fee appeal process?
- Would like to know what the subcommittee is proposing?
- Fall 2020 is the goal for implementation

VII. New Business/Dismissal
(12:20-12:30)

Shaun- would like to see a curriculum committee and not go through graduate council

- Staff are not supposed to be part of the curriculum process
- MAT uses their faculty with the input of one staff member for the technical part

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR DISCUSSION WITH FINANCIAL AID

Good morning Graduate Program Council. During our Nov. 2019 meeting you requested specific information regarding the process/procedure used by the Office of Financial Aid regarding the recent distribution of 40k in scholarships to our graduate students. After a few months of consistent queries to our Financial Aid Office (see your email on 11/21/19 from me with the subject FYI for an example), I decided to (1) invite Thad to our Jan. meeting to get a response to our query and (2) instruct my office to conduct an independent investigation. After a thorough investigation by OGS we have identified the following:

GENERAL INFO.

1. Colorado funds two state need-based financial aid grant programs, the Colorado Student Grant Program, and the Colorado Graduate Grant Program (“Critical Career Graduate Grant”), for Colorado residents.
 - a. The Colorado Graduate Grant Program (“Critical Career Graduate Grant”) has been in existence since AT LEAST 2015. I’m confident funds from previous years were used elsewhere and there is little point attempting to reclaim those funds...However, I thought it was important for you to know.
2. The Commission allocates Colorado Graduate Grant funds to participating institutions following the established methodology:
 - Participating State-supported four-year institutions, and approved private institutions will receive a flat payment from the state for each Pell Eligible student FTE enrolled in a critical career program.
 - Payment based on the average of the actual COA-EFC at each eligible institution as reported in SURDS. Eligible private institutions will use the average of a comparable public institution.
 - One question for Financial Aid is which programs are determined to be “critical career programs” and were the funds allocated to those students specifically?

STATE DISTRIBUTION GUIDELINES

3. Colorado Graduate Grant (“Critical Career Graduate Grant”)

Critical Career Graduate Grants are awarded annually. To be eligible to receive a Critical Career Graduate Grant, the student must meet the need- based requirements in 5.01.03 and the following minimum eligibility requirements:

 - Be a Colorado resident;
 - Be enrolled at least half-time (i.e., four credit hours per term);
 - Show documented financial need.

a. 5.01.03 Eligibility Limits for Colorado Student Grant

Public and non-profit private institutions are granted financial aid flexibility and will award students in accordance with institutional policies. The Graduate Council would like to know what institutional policy was used to determine the disbursement of funds. It is likely, however, that they followed the procedure below:

Proprietary institutions award state funded financial aid in accordance guidelines set forth by the state. To ensure that state need-based dollars are directed to eligible Colorado resident students who have the least ability to pay for their education; CCHE policy defines funding levels for awards granted at proprietary institutions. Using Expected Family Contribution, institutions will award need-based dollars to Pell eligible applicants. Other applicants will be considered only after meeting the need of Pell eligible applicants. Reasonable administrative practices, such as application deadlines, are recognized as realistic and appropriate. Institutions must fund Pell eligible students before consideration is given to any other students.

Pell Eligible: Students with the Least Ability to Pay

Students with an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) between zero and 100% of that required for a PELL grant. The minimum undergraduate award for this group of students is \$1,000 or the maximum amount of unmet need, whichever is less. The minimum grant is \$1,000 to allow the funds to be spread among more students, accommodating budget reductions at the state level. The maximum undergraduate award is \$5,000. Awards may be pro-rated for part-time enrollment.

Level 2: Students with Documented Need and Moderate

Ability to Pay Students with an EFC that is greater than 100% up to 200% of that required for the minimum Pell grant award. Maximum award for this category of students is \$2,500, or the maximum amount of unmet need, whichever is less. The grant can be pro-rated for part-time attendance.

Level 3: Students with Documented Need and Average Ability to Pay All other students who demonstrate financial need as

calculated by the federal methodology. Maximum award for this category of students is \$500.

4. It appears to me, there is an additional option for graduate student funding via the Merit-Based Colorado funds. **MY OFFICE WILL PUSH TO ENSURE WE ARE ALL MADE AWARE OF THE STATE QUALIFICATION STANDARDS FOR THIS.**

Colorado funds one state merit-based financial aid programs, Colorado Centennial Scholars and **Colorado Graduate Scholars**. State-supported merit aid is awarded annually. Students must qualify for these competitive awards each year by meeting all criteria. **Institutions may adopt other eligibility criteria, in accordance with their institutional role and mission.** The policy minimum standards only imply that a student may be considered for a merit award. They do not guarantee an award.

PROFESSIONAL JUDGEMENT-This “gray” area is where we as a Council must question the procedures used for our graduate students.

The state financial aid eligibility parameters are designed to apply to all financial aid recipients. This policy recognizes, however, that circumstances may exist in which the state financial aid parameters do not adequately address a particular student’s situation. Financial aid administrators may exercise professional discretion on a case-by-case basis. The need for special treatment as well as the action taken must be adequately documented in the student’s record.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR GRADUATE PROGRAMS NOT REQUIRING UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

<https://www.colorado.edu/ecee/msee> (CU also has a Data Science coming too)

<https://www.coursera.org/degrees>

- MBA <https://onlinemba.illinois.edu/>
- Accountancy <https://onlinemsa.illinois.edu/>
- Public Health <https://sph.umich.edu/admissions-aid/requirements.html>

MIT- Data, Economics, and Development Policy

<https://gradadmissions.mit.edu/programs/data-economics-and-development-policy>

Check out these articles about an MIT program

<https://www.cnbc.com/2017/07/14/skip-college-and-go-to-graduate-school-with-new-mit-program.html>

<https://www.goodcall.com/news/masters-degree-mit-011535/>

Southern Cross University <https://online.scu.edu.au/blog/can-postgraduate-study-without-bachelors/>

Some Grad Schools Offering Master's without Bachelor's Programs include:

1. [Simmons College](#)
2. [Brandeis University](#)
3. [Loyola University](#)
4. [University of San Francisco](#)
5. [Boston University](#)
6. [Pennsylvania State University](#)
7. [Roger Williams University](#)
8. [Fairleigh Dickinson University](#)
9. [Pepperdine University](#)
10. [University of Delaware](#)
11. [Johns Hopkins University](#)

Note: [Southern Cross University](#) will consider your background when reviewing applications. Typically, if you have five years' experience in a relevant field or other qualifications (like an Associate's degree or other certification) they will consider you for a postgraduate degree without coming from an undergraduate degree. They also weigh in your professional

experience, which is about seven years and over, for the possibility to receive credit or 'Advanced Standing' towards a postgraduate qualification.

Note: Simmons University

Nursing/Registered Nurse (RN, ASN, BSN, MSN) - Master

Current RNs with an associate's degree or nursing diploma might earn an [MSN without a BSN at Simmons University](#). This nursing bridge program offers in-depth courses that offer you the ability to earn both degrees in potentially less time than it would take to earn each separately.

Note: [The University of Essex](#) is another example of a university that will consider your past experience in lieu of an undergraduate degree. Their online MBA program accepts students without a Bachelor's, as long as they can prove at least five years of relevant managerial experience

Note: AACSB does allow some MBA programs to accept students who don't have a bachelor's degree, under certain circumstances.