**YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY**

**College of Graduate Studies**

**Wednesday, February 23, 2022**

**4:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

**TEAMS – Video and Recording Transcript**

Present: Valerie O’Dell, Chair, Patrick Bateman, Christopher Bellas, Lauren Cummins, Kendra Fowler, Douglas Genna, J. Paul Louth, Tomi Ovaska, Jake Protivnak, Virgil Solomon, Sal Sanders, Angie Urmson Jeffries, Linda Hulburt-Blosser

GSAC – Graduate Student Advisory Council Representatives: Excused

Guests: Student Government Association Representatives: Nicholas A Koupiaris and Jacob Harver

Excused: Ewelina Boczkowska, Theresa Gorospe, Gabrielle E. Jones

The Chair, Valerie O’Dell, called the meeting to order once a quorum had been met.

1. The January 2022 meeting minutes were approved (6 Approve, 1 Approve with edit) via evote before the meeting.

1. The Strategic Plan approved via evote (7 Approve, 0 Not approve, 0 Abstain)

1. Student Government Association Representatives:

Nicholas A Koupiaris and Jacob Harver - Presenters

Nicholas A. Koupiaris shares the following information about the Student Government Association:

Nicholas said he is working on getting information about both academic/non-academic Graduate Assistantship positions more accessible to students and professors/departments to have an easier time finding students to fill these positions as well as students having an easier time to find these positions.

These are the other programs the SGA are working on:

Swipe Out Hunger Program which allows a student to donate meal swipes so students facing food deficiencies can gain meal swipes for free to use on campus.

The Penguin Food Pantry allows a student who faces food deficiencies or long-term food deficiencies the ability to obtain food for free.  Also being distributed for free are hygiene products such as mouth wash, toothbrushes, etc.

The Penguin Food Pantry is working with International Programs to learn more about what kind of food deficiencies international students face and how SGA can be more accommodating to their needs.

This is the Penguin Food Pantry’s 5th Anniversary, and the SGA wants to thank everyone for making this possible.

The SGA currently has the campaign to tackle all things Covid-related which includes supplying facts about the vaccine and promoting all vaccine clinics that YSU (Youngstown State University) has hosted.

The Office of the Student Government Association is making their contact information available to the student population. They look forward to serving the YSU students.

Ongoing Projects:

They are working with Chartwells Dining Services about the current food options and promoting other dining spots on campus.  They are surveying students to see when they are on campus and asking for suggestions for the new student union project.

Lastly, they would like to get more Alumni engagement to help give back to the YSU community. Alumni could also share with current students some first-hand experience when it comes to how they have established themselves as a professional in their fields.

If you would like more information, please contact Nicholas at 330-941-3591 or

https://ysu.edu/kilcawley-center/student-government-association

The Student Government Association Office is in Kilcawley Center, Room 2218.

Jacob Harver

Jacob Harver shared thoughts and his experience for the past two years here at YSU.

His experience as a graduate student and graduate assistant at YSU has exceeded his expectations. It has made a significant and positive impact on his educational and professional development.

The American Studies MA was the perfect fit, taking an interdisciplinary approach while specializing in the Applied History Tract. While being excited and in the home stretch to graduating, the drastic cuts to both programs and faculty at the University have been beyond concerning to him.

He was upset to learn the administration was cutting the NEOMFA Program. While he was not directly enrolled in the program, he said was it is a pillar to the English Department, which jointly runs American Studies with History, and thus has been a part of his education. The NEOMFA’s impact on our community and regional connections to other universities have been significant.

Hearing that Dr. Jacob Labendz, who is respected internationally for his scholarship, was not being renewed, even though the Judaic and Holocaust Studies is an endowed program was also upsetting. Dr. Labendz is a professor that he initially did not meet in the classroom but through his outreach of the community-university partnerships.  He believes that keeping the quality of education at YSU, its place in the community, and how the faculty are valued as people and professionals is important.

He thanked the members again for this opportunity to share his perspective. His relationships with YSU as a community member, student, and alumni have been essential. He has appreciated these experiences of being able to serve the University as a Graduate Assistant and has enjoyed his time here as a student.

1. Sal Sanders thanked Nicholas A Koupiaris and Jacob Harver for their

presentations and he will be contacting them about the Graduate Student Advisory Council meetings.

1. Committee Chair reports

a. Admission and Appeals Committee Chair: J. Paul Louth

The committee heard one appeal on scholarship and upheld that appeal.

* 1. Graduate Curriculum Chair: Virgil Solomon- To be sent via evote.

Due to the large number under review, items will be sent via email after the Curriculum Committee completes their review.

1. Exceptions Chair: Sal Sanders

No exceptions were sent to the Committee for review.

Sal Sanders did report they received one exception for someone to be admitted to the Criminal Justice Program without the need to complete the GRE (Graduate Record Exam). Because of the recent policy change that was approved by Graduate Council last month, Sal did not have to take this request to the Exceptions Committee, and this was approved and granted right away.

There is one exception currently being considered to allow a transfer of more than the maximum number of hours for a doctoral degree in the Ed.D. program. Further discussion is still required regarding the number of hours that will be allowed to be transferred. A report will be submitted at the next meeting.

See Attachment #1.

1. Grievance Chair: Christopher Bellas

There is nothing to report.

e. GSAC: Theresa Gorospe, Gabrielle E. Jones, and Joseph Spurio

No report was submitted at this time. Angie Urmsom Jeffries report that the group did meet with Sal Sanders last week.

1. Errata Procedure added to ETD submission policy (see below).

See Attachment #2.

Angie explained that a faculty member came to her in the last month with a report that one of his students had published a thesis last year and found some errors in the thesis that needed to be corrected. We added the errata document to this student’s submission, but we realized that we needed a policy going forward to deal with this kind of situation.

The suggested policy that they came up with is shown at the bottom of the agenda.  The error needs to be substantial and impacted the research and not for clerical errors.  See the example on the Microsoft Teams files to see the information that is required from the faculty member and identify the changes that need to be made. OhioLink prefers to upload the corrected information as supplemental material along with the original thesis. To be clear, the original thesis document with the error is still posted with the added statement showing what page the error was on and showing that it was an honest mistake.

This is coming to the Graduate Council members for review and to get their opinion and comments on this suggested **Thesis/Dissertation Errata Procedure** form which would be added to the ETD submission. This policy is not intended to cover any intentional misconduct by the student.

It was determined that the thesis/dissertation committee members would be notified to approve the change before the **Thesis/Dissertation Errata Procedure** form be added to the ETD submission. A link would be provided to YSU faculty and other available committee members the opportunity to make any objections or comments about this notification. They would then sign off electronically.

It was suggested to have a second policy for those situations that involve more egregious or flagrant violations. Several Council members suggested checking to see what policies and procedures other universities are using about research integrity.

Dean Sanders’s Comments:

As a follow-up from the last meeting, Sal shared information from a survey compiled of other Ohio Universities to see their standard minimum GPA required for graduate admission to other universities in Ohio.  A total of 17 graduate colleges or schools were contacted. To view the result of this survey, please see Attachment #3 – Survey- Ohio Grad Schools and Colleges Minimum GPA.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Linda Hulburt Blosser

Linda A. Hulburt Blosser, Academic Ops Specialist2

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**For Review by Graduate Council Members**

**Thesis/Dissertation Errata Procedure**

Students and advisors should check content carefully before submission to avoid errors. On occasion, however, significant errors in content are discovered after submission to the Electronic Theses and Dissertations Center of OhioLINK.  For submission of errata, the error must be considered significant. Minor errors, such as typographical or other mistakes that do not impede comprehension, are not formally correct.

To request the inclusion of an Errata Statement to the original submission, please submit the following to the Graduate College:

Name:

Title of Thesis/Dissertation:

Accession Number:

Date thesis/dissertation submitted (Month, Year):

Attach a PDF of the errata data

Attachment #1

Exceptions Committee Report to Graduate Council for February 2022

Committee Membership:

Dr. Sal Sanders, Chairperson

Dr. Virgil Solomon

Dr. Valerie O’Dell

Received a request for an exception to permit an applicant to be admitted to the Criminal Justice program without the need to complete the GRE.

The exception was not sent to the committee. I utilized the policy change recently approved by graduate council to admit the applicant without requiring the GRE.

Report submitted by Sal Sanders on 02/23/22.

 Attachment #2 - Example of Errata Submission Form

Graphical user interface, application

Description automatically generated

Attachment #3 – Survey

Ohio Grad Schools and Colleges Minimum GPA

Graphical user interface, application, Teams

Description automatically generated