SLIS Graduate Studies Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 12, 2012
10:30 to 11:30 a.m. SLIS Conference room

PRESENT: Rhonda Harris Taylor, Chair; Betsy Martens (faculty member Spring 2011); Meg Wilson (Norman student member); Jennifer Tatum (Tulsa student member); Maggie Ryan (guest)

ITEM: Approval of February 13, 2012 minutes
ACTION: Move to accept with typo corrections (spaces in "datagathering" and "Jan.meeting") by M. Wilson and second by B. Martens. Accepted by vote.

ITEM: Committee’s annual report
INFORMATION: R. Taylor reported that at the March 5 faculty meeting, committees were requested to submit draft annual reports at the April 9 faculty meeting. The committee’s last meeting of the semester is April 16. R. Taylor will send the draft report to the committee for consideration prior to the April 9 meeting.

ITEM: Spring 012 Comprehensive Examination processes
INFORMATION: M. Ryan reported that there are currently 40 signed up for the take home comps & 3 for the old proctored format, 7 scheduled portfolio defenses, and potentially 1 thesis defense. R. Taylor reported that at the March faculty meeting, the faculty approved the committee recommendation to release the take home comps question to the SLIS student body after results are official; this would be done each semester to have a set of the last 2 years’ questions available to students. R. Taylor reported that SLIS faculty have submitted questions for the 2 spring exams, and the collated questions will be sent today to faculty in preparation for the Monday, March 26 meeting of faculty to select questions.

ITEM: Update on student appeal
INFORMATION: R. Taylor reported that there has been 1 student appeal since the last Grad Studies Com meeting, and per policy, it was handled by the faculty members of the committee. The appeal involved a conditional status student who dropped a course, and withdrawals are not allowed while on conditional appeal. The committee recommended granting the appeal, which was the recommendation forwarded to the SLIS director and then to Graduate Studies. However, the student had dropped the course during the time period before drops are recorded on transcripts, so the petition was moot. Future appeals of this nature should be queried as to whether the drop/withdrawal was actually recorded.

ITEM: Continuation of discussion regarding EPA assessment/evaluation instruments (administered to faculty and students post-EPA experience)
DISCUSSION: Consideration of the following instruments forwarded to the Committee on February 16:
Comprehensive exam (students)
Comprehensive exam (faculty)
The committee discussed the 3 EPA instruments. It was decided that for the spring 2012 exam the committee’s preference is for the 3 instruments to be administered, but with these modifications:

Comprehensive exam (students)—use same instrument for old format but add question as to whether the video orientation on the SLIS web site was accessed; use same instrument for new format but add questions about access of video orientation and any technology challenges encountered

Comprehensive exam (students)—use same instrument for both formats

Portfolio experience—use same instrument but add questions about access of video orientation on the SLIS Web site

The draft modified instruments will be sent to the committee for review.

R. Taylor will also inquire at the March 26 meeting regarding the comps if the faculty is willing to have a debriefing session at the May faculty meeting (regarding the new comps experience).

At its April meeting, the committee will begin consideration of modifications of these instruments to better reflect outcomes evaluation. R. Taylor will resend to the committee the instruments with some resources on outcomes evaluation and the goals of the EPAs from the guidelines.

**NEXT MEETING (last one of semester):**

Monday, April 9, 10:30 to 11:30