

University of South Carolina Upstate
Faculty Standing Committee Year End Report

Year: 2016-17

Committee: Graduate Studies Committee

Members: Brett Barwick (MCS), Elise Harvey (JCBE), Amy Connolly (INFO), Kela Goodman (SOE), Mary Hodge (SON), Jennifer Parker (PSY)

Meetings: 9/13/2016, 11/10/2016, 1/19/2017, and 4/06/2017

Business: The 2016 Faculty Manual rolled back all the changes from this Committee that Faculty Senate passed during the previous academic year.

In a memo dated 10/24/2016 addressed to “Deans” Dr. Flynn set forth policies on graduate faculty selection criteria and graduate faculty workloads. In its January 2017 meeting, this Committee asked Dr. Flynn’s representative, Dr. Gibb, for clarification on these policies. The Committee has not received a response from Dr. Flynn.

On 11/16/2016, as requested, the Committee forwarded an unofficial, 9-page memo to Interim Chancellor Dr. Fitzpatrick and Interim Vice Chancellor Dr. Flynn which outlined the Committee’s recommendations for graduate programs at USC Upstate. The Committee attempted to account for the October policies from Dr. Flynn, based on the Committee’s interpretation of the memoranda. The Committee is still waiting for feedback on this memo; therefore it is not official.

On 1/10/2017, the Committee received a memo from Dr. Flynn which assigned Dr. Gibb as a designated ex-officio member, per the 2016 Faculty Manual. Dr. Gibb was added (and is welcome) to attend subsequent committee meetings.

The Committee did not receive any curriculum changes in graduate programs this year.

MCS and SOE expressed they are working on developing new graduate programs, but they did not forward documentation to the Committee nor seek the Committee’s assistance in drafting documentation. The Committee recommends that academic units seeking to build new graduate programs should seek out the Committee’s assistance well before finalizing documentation for Committee approval, preferably at the beginning or middle of the process, not at the end.

Kela Goodman volunteered to serve as Chair for 2017-18.