



Graduate Executive Committee
October 14, 2022
Minutes

Attendees:

Voting Members: Bingham, Andrea; Bono, Jeremy; Calhoun, Magan; Christensen, Tom; Corl, Michael; Feliciano, Leilani; Kalkur, Ts; Lewis, Rory; Liu, Kathy; McGuire, Patrick; Moon, David; Mujkic, Edin; Owens, Janel; Pearson, James; Simmons, Catherine; Sullivan, Katie; Tragesser, Steve; Vogt, Brandon; Wehrman, Joe; Wei, Yang

Non-Voting Members: Adams, Samantha; Aicher, Thomas; Anderson-Pence, Katie; Bish, Namphung; Clouse, Wendi; Cox, Mathew; Daniels, Elizabeth; DuBois, David; Easter, Morgan; Glascoe, Melanie; Hosain, Stephani; Johnson, Deanna; Klebe, Kelli; Long, Sarah; McCann, Rashell; Meyer, Alisha; Mora, Jose; Newcomb, Jennifer; Reynolds, Amy; Rupp, Mary; Sanchez, Mikey; Subudhi, Andrew; Williams, Andrea

Agenda Items

- HPNU Elite Sport Performance Track (James Pearson; see proposal below)
 - New track in Applied Physiology MSc degree in Elite Sport Performance proposed.
 - If approved, David Moon offered to help with HLC notification documents.

The GEC Voted to recommend approval of the proposed track
(19 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain)

- Non-degree application processes (Mathew Cox)
 - This was discussion item brought by Mathew Cox and the Graduate Admissions Team.
 - Issue is what documents and what standards are wanted for graduate non-degree applicants.
 - GEC members expressed the following:
 - Having few restrictions at the application stage and make the application process easy for people.
 - Programs always have the choice to decide which students can take their classes.
 - Having campus make long term changes to charge tuition for students based on class rather than degree. It was noted that many of these students are taking undergraduate courses but are required to pay a higher tuition because they are classified as graduate students.
 - The Graduate School and Graduate Admissions team will develop process and bring back to GEC for information.
- Comprehensive Exams: Sharing of ideas from programs on what is being done in other programs. See below with table of responses from some programs.
- Dissertation Credit Hours (see information below)

The GEC Voted to recommend approval of the proposed changes in the graduate school rules (see information below) (20 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain)

Deans Report:

- Holistic Admissions Update
 - Many thanks to the DEI Graduate School working group (Connie Staley, Roger Martinez-Davila, Joe Wehrman, Jessica Kirby, Mandi Elder, Cathy Simmons, Michael Corl, Sylvia Mendez, Kristen Petersen, and Lisa Stone) who worked over the summer on holistic admissions at UCCS. Roger Martinez will present at GEC in November and we will have a conversation about next steps.
 - Due to the costs of holistic admissions software (e.g., KIRA) we will not move forward at this time. We will look to see how Salesforce may be able to provide additional tools as we get that software fully implemented.
- New Degree Proforma—we are still waiting on a new proforma under the new Budget Allocation Model. Expect it soon. Will send out as soon as we get so you can get started on new programs.

Informational Item:

- Communication program is moving to rolling admissions with applications taken for each semester (Fall, Spring, and Summer).

Announcements:

Graduate Student Professional Development Events

- October 19 (1:00 – 2:30) Graduate Student Professional Development Plans and Networking, T. Rowe Price Career and Innovation Center
- October 31 1:45 – 2:45 What is your research groove? A Slow Scholarship Panel Discussion (Virtual meeting or in Berger Hall; [Registration Link](#))
- UCCS Grad Slam will occur end of January and beginning of February; watch for registration announcements
- UCCS graduate students have access to resources National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity. Please share with your students; they can start with [Member Resources](#).
- [Mountain Lion Research Day](#) Abstract submission portal opens October 17 and is due by November 20. Encourage students to participate in this event (Dec 2 is event day).

Center for Student Research has launched this fall – [The Aspirational Graduate Peer Mentor Program](#)! There is a team of 14 graduate students from a variety of disciplines that are happy to meet with prospective or current students to discuss their experience in graduate school and offer advice. If you think this program might be useful, please share with your students (existing undergraduate students or graduate-prospects/applicants).

GEC Meetings for 2022-2023 academic year: all meetings are from 10:00-11:30am

- Fall GEC Meetings
 - November 11, December 9
- Spring GEC Meetings
 - February 10, March 10, April 14, May 5 (One week early due to Commencement)

Proposal

Track in Elite Sport Performance within the MSc Applied Physiology

Introduction

The Department of Human Physiology and Nutrition offers an MSc in Applied Physiology. This is a program offering the student a strong education in integrative human applied physiology and students can graduate by taking either the comprehensive exam or thesis pathways. This program requires coursework in Graduate Seminar; HPNU 5900 (1 credit hour) and Research Methods and Statistics; HPNU 5010 (4 credit hours) in addition to either a Comprehensive Exam or Thesis capstone. The MSc Applied Physiology serves as good preparation for students seeking careers in biomedical, health, or sport sciences. Students also use this degree to further their education before applying to doctoral-level degree programs (PhD, MD, DPT etc).

MSc Applied Physiology requirements:

Graduate Seminar; HPNU 5900 (1 credit hour)

Research Methods and Statistics; HPNU 5010 (4 credit hours)

Student must also complete either a Comprehensive Exam or Thesis (6 Credit Hours)

Elective Coursework: 19-25 Credit Hours depending upon route taken

The purpose of this proposal is to add a track to this program called Elite Sport Performance which would ideally prepare students for working in sports science settings with elite athletes. Students taking this track will not only allow the student significant experience in working in settings with elite athletes, but would also recognize this on their transcript which would enhance career progression.

Rationale

Colorado Springs has numerous sites where physiologists support elite sport performance. Faculty are already engaged with several of these support sites around Colorado Springs. Engaging students in this environment is clearly beneficial to the students wish to work in the Sports Science environment, particularly with elite athletes. This will more effectively prepare our students to succeed in their future career goals in an increasingly competitive environment.

Creating a track in Elite Sport Performance and placing students into Internships will lead to a strengthening of ties between UCCS, the Hybl Center and local Elite Sport Performance sites. This serves to not only increase the standing of UCCS nationally but also increases the reputation of our MSc program and the graduating students which may lead to an increase in attention and enrollment.

Proposal

The track in Elite Sport Performance will be available to students who enroll in the MSc Applied Physiology program. The primary objective of this track is to allow students to gain experience working in a elite sport physiology environment. Given this, students who complete this track in Elite Sport Performance are required to complete 9 credit hours of Internship experience (HPNU 5990) in environments of elite athletic performance. This requirement serves as a capstone and replaces the need to complete either the Comprehensive Exam or Thesis that is required within the MSc Applied Physiology. The students Internship experience will be coordinated at UCCS by Dan Hutchinson (Internship Coordinator).

MSc Applied Physiology Tack: Elite Sport Performance:

Graduate Seminar; HPNU 5900 (1 credit hour)

Research Methods and Statistics; HPNU 5010 (4 credit hours)

Internship; HPNU 5990 (9 Credit Hours)

Elective Coursework: 16 Credit Hours

Below is a list of the agreements either in place or pending with sites serving as Internship Providers

- US Olympic and Paralympic Training Center (Sport Physiology, and Strength and Conditioning)
- USA Cycling
- USA Volleyball
- National Strength and Conditioning Association
- US Air Force Academy Athletics
- 10th Special Forces Group
- Colorado College Athletics

Affiliated Faculty

Students can enroll for Internship experiences with any of the Graduate Faculty in the Department of Human Physiology and Nutrition. Current Graduate Faculty are listed below and additional faculty may be added.

Dr. Baranauskas - Sex differences in physiology.

Dr. Broker – Sport and Orthopedic Biomechanics

Dr. Jacobs - Exercise Physiology & Human Bioenergetics

Dr. Lindsay – Kinesiology and Applied Statistics

Dr. Morris – Environmental Physiology

Dr. Pearson - Cardiovascular and Environmental Physiology

Dr. Subudhi - Altitude and Exercise Physiology

Admission

Any student who is eligible for admission into the MSc Applied Physiology program is eligible to complete the track in Elite Sport Performance. However, upon application, students who apply will be asked of their intent and advised that the Elite Sport Performance track has the capacity to currently enroll 5-6 students per year. We anticipate that this number will increase along with the capacity of the internship sites available. We do not want to enroll more students than can be handled at internship sites. Should we receive more than 6 applications into this track, the program will have a more selective application process.

Resources and other Impacts

The proposal of this new track requires extra work from the Internship Coordinator and the Graduate program Coordinator. This extra work involves the development and maintenance of relationships with the Internship providers and administration to enable a provider to serve as an internship site. Administrative staff will also see an increased workload in order to alter and maintain the programs web page so that this opportunity can be effectively communicated to new and existing students.

Marketing

All Graduate Faculty are connected to their respective professional communities and will be able to market this new track. Furthermore, any professional organization currently marketing the MSc Applied Physiology will receive new information about this track and the information on those webpages will be updated (American College of Sports Medicine and American Physiological Society).

The Graduate has received a request to allow fewer than 30 dissertation credit hours for a PhD program.

Current UCCS Graduate School Policy on Dissertation Credits: (text in red is what needs to be changed)

Every candidate pursuing a doctoral degree is required to write a dissertation based upon original investigation and showing mature scholarship and critical judgment, as well as familiarity with tools and methods of research/scholarship within their field. The subject must be approved by the student's dissertation advisory committee. Each dissertation presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a doctoral degree must satisfy the specifications of the University of Colorado Colorado Springs Thesis and Dissertation Manual. **The dissertation shall represent a minimum of 30 semester credit hours of work for Ph.D. candidates but may be less in other doctoral programs.**

2021 Denver/Anschutz Graduate School Handbook:

The minimum required credit hours for a doctoral degree is thirty (30) credits of coursework, all of which must be at the Graduate level (5000 and above) and meet program requirements, plus thirty (30) dissertation/research credits. In special cases, credit hour adjustments can be made with formal approval by the Graduate Council.

2022 Denver/ Anschutz Graduate School Handbook:

The minimum number of credit hours for earning a PhD is thirty (30) credits of coursework, all of which must be at the Graduate level (5000 and above) and thirty (30) dissertation credits, unless otherwise approved by the Graduate Council and specified here. <then it lists the 2 programs which have an exception>

Boulder Graduate School Handbook:

To complete the requirements for the Ph.D. a student must register for a minimum of 30 dissertation credit hours.

New proposed rules

UCCS Graduate School Policy on Dissertation Credits: (text in red is what was added)

Every candidate pursuing a doctoral degree is required to write a dissertation based upon original investigation and showing mature scholarship and critical judgment, as well as familiarity with tools and methods of research/scholarship within their field. The subject must be approved by the student's dissertation advisory committee. Each dissertation presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a doctoral degree must satisfy the specifications of the University of Colorado Colorado Springs Thesis and Dissertation Manual. The dissertation shall represent a minimum of 30 semester credit hours of work for Ph.D. candidates but may be less in other doctoral programs. **In special cases, credit hour adjustments can be made with formal approval by the Graduate Executive Committee and listed here.**

If proposal passes, proposed procedure to change number of required dissertation credits to lower than 30 credit hours (DRAFT)

- Program must submit a proposal to the Graduate Executive Committee which outlines the following:
 - Reason for the change
 - How the PhD program meets the research requirements of a PhD degree within their discipline.
 - Why the program should stay a PhD degree and not be a professional doctorate degree
 - Current dissertation requirements and how the dissertation requirements will change with fewer credit hours
 - Standards within the discipline, including accreditation requirements as appropriate and comparisons with similar programs and institutions.
- Proposals must be signed and recommended by program director, department chair, college dean, graduate dean following a recommendation by the Graduate Executive Council. The Provost has final approval.
- All relevant department and college processes must be followed prior to proposal being sent to Graduate Executive Council.

No major changes recommended to proposed procedure. Procedure will be sent to deans and provost for input.

Chat responses to “What type of Comprehensive Exams do you use in your programs?”

Types of comprehensive exams or cumulating experience	Department
Oral presentation on research plans and initial results	Physics, ECE
Capstone Course	Communication
Thesis	Communication
Qualifying exam: Written exam "on fundamentals" followed by oral exam	MAE
With the help of the faculty advisor and grad program coordinator we require the student to identify three instructors from key courses within the degree. Instructors of those courses set and grade 1-2 comprehensive questions from the course in a written take home exam.	HPNU
A portfolio, where students conduct an independent research project, and also submit artifacts that demonstrate their proficiency in our program domains, a narrative reflection, an annotated bibliography, and a dissertation abstract. There is then a defense of the portfolio for a faculty panel	Leadership PhD
National Exam	Counseling (Clinical Mental Health and School)
Didactic exam, essay scenarios, and oral defense	Counseling (AOC)
Comprehensive: Research completed to date and dissertation plans	MAE
Portfolio that covers assessment, therapy, and research competencies and oral exam	Psychology PhD