Faculty Senate Bills   Faculty Senate

10-23-1980

Curricular Report No. 1980-81-1 from the Graduate Council to the Faculty Senate: Sections C - Proposal for a Diploma and Advanced Librarianship

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
Kingston, Rhode Island

FACULTY SENATE
BILL

Adopted by the Faculty Senate

TO: President Frank Newman

FROM: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL, titled Curricular Report No. 1980-81-1 from the Graduate
    Council to the Faculty Senate: Section C - Proposal for a Diploma in Advanced
    Librarianship   ,
    is forwarded for your consideration.

2. The original and two copies for your use are included.

3. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on October 23, 1980 .
                                                              (date)

4. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or
    disapproval. Return the original or forward it to the Board of Regents,
    completing the appropriate endorsement below.

5. In accordance with Section 8, paragraph 2 of the Senate's By-Laws, this
    bill will become effective on November 13, 1980 (date), three weeks
    after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are
    written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; (3) you forward
    it to the Board of Regents for their approval; or (4) the University
    Faculty petitions for a referendum. If the bill is forwarded to the
    Board of Regents, it will not become effective until approved by the Board.

October 27, 1980
        (date)

Alvin K. Swonger
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

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ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

1. Returned.

2. a. Approved _____.

    b. Approved subject to final approval by Board of Regents ___✓___.

    c. Disapproved _____.

Bd of Regents 7-16-81
approval.

12/16/80
        (date)

President

Form revised 7/78

C. <u>Graduate Library School</u>
   1. <u>Add</u> (new)

Proposal from the Graduate Library School to offer a new advanced degree, the Diploma in Advanced Librarianship.

      The profession of librarianship has developed a degree ladder which includes the master's in librarianship as the first professional degree and the doctorate at the top of the ladder. Over the years, practitioners have argued forcefully for a degree between these two which would permit further professional development in a structured and academically-sound manner. Although such degrees have many variations and many names, they usually consist of 24-30 credit hours beyond the Master's level. A general structure for such degrees has been approved by the Association of American Library Schools. At the present time, of the 61-ALA-accredited library schools, 37 offer some variation of the DAL, including such institutions as California, Chicago, Columbia, Emory, Illinois, Syracuse, Texas and Wisconsin. Our DAL proposal was developed by a committee which included three URI faculty members and six other library leaders from three New England States It has been enthusiastically endorsed by the Graduate Library School's Advisory Council, whose membership includes representatives of New England's major library groups.

      The goal of the proposed DAL program is to extend the education of librarians and to further prepare them for staff and administrative positions in any type of library or information center. It is planned to provide educational experience with a focus on specific areas of specialization: academic library; public library; school library media centers; special libraries; service to children and young adults; information systems, data processing and automation; and media.

      The Diploma in Advanced Librarianship (DAL) would allow practicing librarians to come to the GLS and study for a degree that would do one or more of the following:
      (1) expand upon skills and knowledge learned in previous studies
      (2) introduce new technologies
      (3) build a foundation in a related discipline (e.g., business administration, public administration, computer science, instructional technology, etc.)
      (4) prepare for possible further advanced degree study in a subject discipline or in library science at another institution
      (5) furnish credentials for position and salary advancement
      (6) develop expertise necessary for advanced certification in positions in education

<u>Eligibility</u>: In order to be considered for admission to the program, a person must have: (1) the master's degree in library science or a master's degree in a related field. Persons holding the master's degree in related fields may be required to take prerequisite courses specified by the Admissions Committee and approved by the faculty. Such prerequisites would be selected from the core and elective courses in the MLS program. (2) at least two years of substantive library experience after the completion of the master's degree. (3) evidence of high quality graduate and professional work.
Persons who do not satisfy the eligibility requirements above may petition the Admissions Committee and Graduate School for special consideration.

<u>Course of Study</u>: With the exception of a Special Problems Seminar (LSC 693), it is anticipated that no additions to the curriculum will be required. LSC 693 will cover major issues in the field, and require a presentation and paper. Enough course work is available in the present curriculum and in related disciplines on campus to permit completion of such a degree. Furthermore, the program will consist of a combination of course work, research, workshops, institutes, etc. and field applications.

The program must be flexible and give full consideration to the special interests of each candidate. An interdisciplinary approach is strongly recommended, since this may be the most effective means of becoming proficient in fields of specialization.

Advisement and Governance: Each student will develop, in consultation with his/her adviser, assigned by the Dean, a coherent program that will accommodate his/her particular interests within an area of specialization. The program will consist of a minimum of thirty hours of coursework at the graduate level, to be completed within a time limit of six years.*

A committee on the DAL consisting of three faculty members will be appointed each year by the Dean with the advice and consent of the Graduate Library School Faculty. The committee may include a faculty member from outside the Graduate Library School.

The Committee will have two functions: (1) To review and approve (or disapprove) the programs of study devised by students in consultation with their advisers, and (2) to read and approve (or disapprove) the six-credit research papers completed by students with the guidance of their advisers.

Requirements for all candidates:
(1) Special Problems Seminar - 3 credits
(2) A course in Management or Administration preferably taken outside the Graduate Library School - 3 credits
(3) A research course (to be prerequisite for the Independent Research Paper) - 3 credits
(4) Independent Research Paper (probably practically or operationally oriented) - 6 credits

If a candidate has not taken coursework at the MLS level in media or in the technology area of information science, coursework dealing with the application of technology in library operations should be strongly recommended by the adviser.

With the above as the basis, each student would then plan a special track which would fit his/her special interests.

_____

*This time limit is a specific exception to the provisions of the Graduate Student Manual. In all other respects, the provisions of the Manual will apply to students enrolled in this program.