

## Neuroscience Program Faculty Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2016

Cobbett absent from list of attendees in the minutes from the February meeting. Minutes approved

### 1. Update on Research Forum

Andrew had nothing new to report as the student council meeting to discuss research forum was cancelled.

Andrew's term as student rep to the FAC is complete and Sarah Cooper will be taking over.

Cindy Jordan provided feedback on the proposed plan for 2016-2017 Research Forum schedule

- Further development of the neuroethics sessions would be helpful and recruitment of additional faculty to participate in these session would be helpful (don't depend only on Laura Cabrerra).
- Identify faculty who can lead discussions on helping grad students mentor u-grad students.
- Prep for written comp exam should be for both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students.
- Requirement for upper class presentations in forum. Must give one talk between comp and final exam.
- Committee gave feedback on Research forum plan regarding outside speakers, attendance requirements and student speaker requirements.
- GAC will review revised forum plan and approve, Cindy J's charge has been completed.
- Can revisit forum next year to see how things have gone.

### 2. Curriculum committee report: Symonds

- Provided a short history of ZOL 402 (Neurobiology). ZOL 402 will become NEU 300 and will be a service course provided by the Neuroscience Program.
- There was agreement to make NEU 300 or Psych 209 pre-requisites for NEU 301 and NEU 302 for neuroscience majors

Cheryl Sisk indicated that the revision of the planned revision of the Neuroscience PhD program curriculum is behind schedule. Action is needed urgently.

3. Caryl Sortwell proposed that the Translational Science and Molecular Medicine individual development plan protocol be implemented across the Neuroscience Ph.D. program. The FAC was supportive but the proposal should receive broader discussion. This will be discussed at the April Cross Campus Research Day in Grand Rapids.
4. Marc Breedlove: Specialized comp exam form, is there a requirement for a signature or simply the committee member's name and the grade assignment. Whose form is this and why is it needed? Galligan will investigate.
5. Jordan, oral comp exam: Should the mentor be allowed to be present in the room during the exam with a gag order. This will reduce confusion when interpreting reports on exam outcomes. This would be particularly when the student does not pass or is assigned a conditional pass. Cheryl Sisk was also supportive of this proposal. Will be discussed at the next GAC meeting.
6. Cheryl Sisk proved an update on the Director's review. Will be done by the end of April.

