

Meeting of the Graduate Council
March 5, 2007
Minutes

Present

Councilors: **Arts and Sciences**— Jon Bloch, Paul Best, Steve Burian, Ken Florey, Ross Gingrich, Scott Graves, Gerry Lesley, Dina Moore, Lori Verplaetse, Charles Wieder, Leon Yacher **Business**— Durga Prasad **CLIS**—Hak Joon Kim, Chang Suk Kim, Jane McGinn, Hrvoje Podnar; **Education**- Robert Axtell, Nancy Boyles, Ruth Eren, Joy Fopiano, Adam Goldberg, Bernard Hayford, Mike Martin, Joel Meisel, David Squires **HHS**—Mary Bellandese, Michael Perlin, Eileen Crutchlow, Roy Hunter, Mary Purdy.
Guests/Observers: Dean Sandra Holley, Associate Dean Roseann Diana, Assistant Dean Lisa Galvin, Nancy Bobrek, Library Services, Carlos Arboleda and Ruben Pelayo, Foreign Language Department

1. Call to Order

Dr. Gerry Lesley

Chairperson Gerald Lesley called the meeting to order at 1:09 pm.

2. Disposition of Minutes of February 5, 2007.

The minutes of February 5, 2007 were passed unanimously.

3. Announcements

a. Office of the Provost

Dr. Selase W. Williams

Dr. Williams distributed the draft of the Strategic Plan and asked that the Councilors review the document carefully, paying particular attention to the information related to Graduate education.

b. Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies

Dean Sandra Holley

Dr. Holley reported that the graduate enrollment as presented by the Office of Management and Institutional Research showed full-time graduate enrollment has declined from 1020 in Spring 2006 to 936 full time students for this spring semester. There was also a drop in part time graduate student enrollment to 2504 for the Spring semester of 2007.

Dr. Holley announced that training in the use of Banner is available by Conrad Calandra for all department secretaries as well as other staff and faculty. In particular she emphasized that this training would be helpful for graduate coordinators. Training in Banner is available by calling Conrad Calandra at 25393 to schedule an individual appointment. He is willing to meet as much as necessary to assist faculty

and staff in acquiring facility with the Banner system and checking the status of graduate applicants.

To date 668 students have returned Graduate Commencement participation forms, which is a record number for this time of year. Graduate Commencements will be held on Thursday, May 24 at 2:00 and 7:00 pm. Ticket distribution for commencement will begin on April 23 and continue for 1 week. After May 4, excess tickets will be distributed to students who requested additional tickets.

The Graduate School will host its Open House on Thursday, April 19 in the Adanti Student Center. Dr. Holley is looking forward to the active participation of representatives from each department.

Dr. Holley announced that the review panel for the 2007-2008 Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF) and Graduate School Graduate Assistantship (GSGA) competitions will be convened on Monday March 12, 2007. She anticipates that the GRF competition will be re-opened due to the small number of applications received.

4. Reports

a. Academic Standards

Dr. Ken Florey

Dr. Ken Florey reported that the Exercise Science and Foreign Languages Programs will present their reports later in the meeting.

He added that Dr. William Diffley reported that the links for the alumni and student surveys will be available soon. Dr. Jon Block reported that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Special Project Capstone experience is meeting and that their work is progressing.

b. Procedures

Dr. Jane McGinn

No report.

c. Curriculum

Dr. Mary Purdy

Dr. Mary Purdy reported that the committee recommended that CHE 588, Scientific Writing and Research Methods be approved as written. A motion was presented to the Council and CHE 588 was approved unanimously. Dr. Purdy also reported that the committee is currently researching the Department of Higher Education (DHE) guidelines for New Programs and Program proposals in order to align university requirements with the DHE. Dr. Purdy also announced that the Curriculum Committee is now meeting the week prior to Graduate Council.

5. Old Business

a. *Rules of Order update*

Dr. Gerry Lesley

Dr. Gerry Lesley reported that the Rules of Order have been received by the Faculty Senate and that they have not been placed on the agenda as yet.

6. New Business

Graduate Program Review

Dr. Ken Florey

Dr. Florey introduced Dr. Robert Axtell, who presented the report for the Exercise Science graduate program. Dr. Axtell reviewed the program's goals, employment opportunities, entry and exit requirements, strengths and weaknesses as well as the department's action plans for the future. Dr. Florey announced that, based on the department report, the ASC recommended continuing approval for Exercise Science. A motion to approve the ASC's recommendation for Continuing Approval of the Exercise Science graduate program passed unanimously.

Dr. Florey then introduced Dr. Ruben Pelayo from the Foreign Languages Department. Dr. Pelayo presented a response to the Academic Standards Committee (ASC), outlining significant proposed changes and improvements to their graduate degree requirements. These changes, he felt, addressed many of the concerns presented by the ASC in their summary of the Interim Report for Foreign Languages that was distributed to all councilors with their agenda packet prior to the meeting. Based on the information provided by the department to the ASC, the Committee recommended that the graduate program in Foreign Languages **not** be granted continuing approval. Dr. Pelayo told the Council that the Foreign Language Department would like a six-month extension from the Council before any vote was taken on the disposition of the program so that they could implement the changes he outlined. Dr. Florey, without commenting on the specifics of the Department's proposed changes to their program, indicated that Council Rules of Procedure did not allow for the extension that he had requested. Discussion among the councilors ensued. Many councilors commented that Dr. Pelayo had presented an outline for significant changes with potential for improvement in the department and the ability to address many issues cited by the ASC. It was brought up, however, that these changes were so significant that they should be addressed as a new program through the Curriculum Committee. A motion was made that the Foreign Language graduate program **not** be granted continuing approval. The motion was passed with 20 votes in agreement, 4 abstentions and one vote against.

8. Adjournment

Chairperson Lesley adjourned the meeting at 3:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary H. Bellandese, Secretary