

Meeting of the Graduate Council

March 3, 2003

Minutes

Present

Councilors: Jon Bloch, Donald Cyr, Steve Burian, Gerry Lesley, Vara Neverow, Deane Hetric, Alan Friedlander, Michelle Merriweather, Clyde Weed, Jerry Hauselt, James Thorson, Omid Nodoushani, Hrvoje Podnar, Josephine Sche, Gwendolyn Nowlan, Joy Fopiano, Joel Meisel, Maria Diamantis, Cynthia McDaniels, Jin Jin Yang, Patricia Major, Nancy Boyles, Kristy Hebert, Lystra Richardson, Marianne Kennedy, Susan Killion, Jean Breny Bontempi, Joe Panza, Elayne Haymes, Esther Howe

Guests: June Cheng, Rod Lane, Lisa Galvin, Sandra Holley, Roseann Diana

Call to Order

Chairman Jerome Hauselt called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm. A motion to approve the minutes (with one edit) of February 3, 2003 was made, seconded, and approved by the Council.

Announcements

Office of the Academic Vice President

Dr. J. Philip Smith

No Report

Office of the Dean of Graduates Studies

Sandra Holley

The Dean of the Graduate School addressed the Council concerning the following issues:

1. Graduate Census Data show that full-time graduate enrollment increased 10.7% and part-time decreased by 4.2% from last spring.
2. Graduate applications have increased by over 1200 between Fall 2002 and Fall 2003. This has resulted in an increase of work in the Graduate Studies office. Staff in the Graduate Studies office is working very hard to stay on top of processing graduate applications. Priority of processing applications will be given to those programs that have deadlines. Dean Holley expressed appreciation to faculty's recognition of the personnel shortage in her office and patience with the pace with which work gets done.
3. Graduate Research Fellowship applications are due Thursday, April 3, 2003. Dean Holley noted two important factors for review of these applications. First, page limit restrictions must be strictly followed by applicants. Extra pages will be removed prior to sending to the review committee. Second, evidence of faculty participation in seminars is a critical aspect of applications getting accepted.
4. Graduate Research Symposium will be held on Thursday, May 1, 2003. Faculty were asked to encourage their students to attend.

Committee Reports

Procedures

Joy Fopiano

The following individuals were recommended by the Procedures Committee, and approved by the Graduate Council, to be members of the graduate faculty: Dr. Benjamin Adam Abugri (ECO) and Dr. Carolyn Park Bani (PCH).

Discussion ensued around a third candidate for graduate faculty on whom the Procedures Committee was evenly split. Presentations were made by Committee members who represented each side of the debate. After much discussion a motion to confer Graduate Faculty status upon this individual was made, seconded, and discussed. A motion was made to call the question but was not approved. Further discussion ensued. A second motion to call the question was made and approved. The motion under consideration was approved (15 in favor, 8 opposed, 7 abstentions).

Curriculum

Nancy Boyles

There were six courses recommended by the Curriculum Committee and approved by the Graduate Council. They were: IDS 571: Science Lab Practice; SCE 570: The History and Dimensions of Scientific Thought; SCE 572: Recent Developments in Science Education; SCE 573: Multimedia Technology in the Science Classroom; SCE 574: Special Project in Science Education; and SCE 575: Integrated Science Experience. A recommendation by the Curriculum Committee to approve CSC 545: Advanced Database Systems; CSC 571: Neural Networks; and PCH 586: Health Promotion Methods and Strategies *with minor revisions*, was approved by the Council.

Academic Standards

Susan Killion

For our April meeting, the Academic Standards committee will be reviewing the Science Education and Environmental Education graduate programs. Educational Foundations will be in May.

Graduate Program Review – Sociology: Dr. Jon Bloch presented the graduate program in Sociology. Active graduate student enrollment is 43. Evaluation results show high satisfaction among students and faculty. Recently added to the program was a theory course and increased rigor to the comprehensive exam. Following the presentation, the recommendation of the Academic Standards Committee (via their report) for *continuing approval* of the Sociology graduate program was approved unanimously by the Council.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Adjournment

Chairman Hauselt adjourned the meeting at 2:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean M. Breny Bontempi, Secretary

