

# Meeting of the Graduate Council

## March 7, 2005

### Minutes

#### Present

**Councilors: Arts and Sciences**—Kristine Anthis, Jon Bloch, Vincent Breslin, Steve Burian, Ken Florey, Alan Friedlander, Ross Gingrich, Gerry Lesley, Patricia Olney;

**Business**—Omid Nodoushani, James Thorson; **CLIS**—Yan Liu, Jane McGinn, Hrvoje Podnar; **Education**—Robert Axtell, Joy Fopiano, Bernard Hayford, Norris Haynes, Lystra Richardson, Beth Taylor, Christine Villani; **HHS**—Mary Bellandese, Susan Killion, Edward Lynch, Joe Panza, Mary Purdy

**Guests/Observers:** Dean Sandra Holley, Associate Dean Roseann Diana, Assistant Dean Lisa Galvin, Patricia Major, Patricia De Barbieri, June Cheng, Uchenna Nwachuku

#### 1. Call to Order

Chairperson Susan Killion called the meeting to order at 1:08 pm.

#### 2. Disposition of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes of February 7, 2005. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 3. Announcements

##### a. *Office of the Academic Vice-President*

**Ellen Beatty**

The interim Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Beatty, was attending a conference, so there was no report from her office. Dean Holley indicated that Interim Vice President Beatty was well aware of the issue of international students and the coordination of programs for them and was working on the problem.

##### b. *Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies*

**Sandra Holley**

The Dean of Graduate Studies addressed the Council concerning the following matters:

1. Graduate enrollment statistics as presented by Institutional Research on February 3, 2005 in their REGSTATS report showed full-time graduate enrollment decreased 1% from last spring. We had a total of 942 full-time graduate students for this spring compared to 950 at the same time last year. Part-time enrollment decreased by 3%, resulting in a total of 2,766 part-time graduate students for the Spring semester.
2. Graduate School Open House will be held on Thursday, April 14 from 3:00-7:00 p.m. in the Lyman Center. Announcements of the Open House will appear in the media in the form of ads in magazines and newspapers and on the radio. Councilors are requested to inform faculty in their departments of the event and to encourage their active participation.
3. The GSGA and GRF competitions have been announced and posted. The closing deadline for all applications is Monday, March 28 at 4:00 p.m. The applications are available on the Graduate School website. A seminar was held on February 25

- to inform the university community about the two programs and was well attended by both faculty and students.
4. The Noel-Levitz mailing is being prepared to send to all students receiving their degrees this year.
  5. The Graduate Office was well aware of parking problems related to graduate students. In that connection, Dean Holley invited Mr. John Prokop to address the Council on this issue later in the meeting at 2:00 p.m.
  6. She then introduced Mike Galbicsek, Chair of the Graduate Student Affairs Committee (GSAC), to give a brief report on the organization and to demonstrate its new website.

Mr. Galbicsek spoke, indicating that GSAC was as active this year as it ever has been with 12 different departments represented. GSAC is a graduate student organization that provides funding for graduate student organizations, for graduate student attendance at conferences, and for research projects. He then gave a brief presentation in which he demonstrated the various features of the new GSAC website. Councilor Fopiano commended Mr. Galbicsek and his GSAC colleagues for the development of an attractive and informative website.

#### **4. Reports**

##### ***a. Academic Standards***

**Gerald Lesley**

Gerald Lesley, Chair of the Academic Standards Committee (ASC), announced that the Computer Science Program would be coming up for its five-year review at the next meeting of the ASC and that the Counseling and School Psychology program would be presenting its report later in the meeting. The Research Statistics and Measurement program requested a delay in its evaluation, which was granted by the ASC. That program will now be evaluated in October.

##### ***b. Procedures***

**Alan Friedlander**

Alan Friedlander, Chair of the Procedures Committee, announced that the Committee had approved the nominations to the Graduate Faculty of Judith Woerner of Economics and Finance, Andrew Smyth of English, Kevin Buterbaugh of Political Science, Mitchell Bills of Art, Terrence Lavin of Art, and Camille Serchuk of Art and was submitting their names to the Council for final action. Their nominations were approved unanimously by the Council.

Dr. Friedlander then indicated that he would be submitting changes to the Rules of Order under New Business.

##### ***c. Curriculum***

**Mary Purdy**

Mary Purdy, Chair of the Curriculum Committee, announced that her committee had reviewed two new course proposals; one from English (ENG 563—American Modernism) and the other from Special Education (SED 520—The Nature and Needs of Individuals with Autism Spectrum and Other Developmental Disabilities). They tabled

the English Department course until their next meeting, not because of content but because the format and organization needed revision. They recommended passage of SED 520 without revision. That course was then approved unanimously by the Council at large. Mary Purdy indicated that there would be a number of new courses up for approval next month.

## **5. New Business**

Dr. Friedlander initiated discussion of changes to the Rules of Order, which had been revised in 2004 by the Procedures Committee. Current rules require that any proposed changes in the rules be disseminated to the Council in writing at least one week prior to a Council meeting. He indicated that, while no hard copy of these proposed changes had been distributed, they were on the Graduate School WebCT homepage and an announcement to that effect had been made at last meeting. He asked if the Council would consider that proper notice, and the Council voted unanimously to accept that format in this instance.

Dr. Friedlander pointed out that many of the proposed changes had been in the works for three years, with many revisions originally suggested in April of 2004. Any of these suggestions that the Council approved would then be sent to the Faculty Senate for final approval.

The first issue concerned that of graduate faculty membership. Dr. Friedlander indicated changes in the wording to the existing Rules of Order in that regard. The proposed change would allow Graduate Faculty to have earned the terminal degree appropriate to his or her discipline or have been granted the rank of full professor.

Several people objected to the issue of the terminal degree or full professorship, believing that there were special circumstances under which a professor might not have either a terminal degree in his or her field or full professorship but still be worthy of joining the graduate faculty. Others felt that anyone applying to the graduate faculty who did not have a terminal degree would, nevertheless, consider his or her individual case to be “special” under such a provision and that a degree provision would then be meaningless.

Dr. Friedlander proposed to the Council that the Procedures Committee would look at the language once again to see if procedures could be developed by which “special circumstances” could be spelled out as specifically as possible. His motion was seconded by Councilor Panza and was passed unanimously by the Council.

Dr. Friedlander outlined some other proposed changes to the rules. In the future, Councilors would be elected by the entire faculty of their departments, not by the graduate faculty alone. Also, the responsibility of notifying departments that the terms of their Councilors was now up would switch from the Secretary of the Council to the Procedures Committee. Council Chairperson Killion noted that this last change would make the Rules of Order consistent with current practice and with the Elections Document. Dr. Friedlander said that all proposed changes would be up on the Web within a week.

Chairperson Killion then introduced Chief John Prokop, Director of Public Safety, who dealt with the issue of parking concerns related to graduate students. He noted that at 5 p.m. on Monday through Thursday we have approximately 2,500 students who wish to park near the academic buildings. There are enough parking places for these students around campus, but only about 1,300 spaces available in the areas where they desire to park. What also is a problem is traffic congestion caused by students trying to get in and out of lots at the same time, holding up street traffic. Students who drop off other students also add to the congestion. He indicated that he was working on various solutions to the problem, including changing one city traffic signal. He proposed allowing some staff to leave work at 3:30 instead of 4:30, freeing some spaces for evening students. A general discussion followed with some councilors suggesting a return to Friday and Saturday classes, others suggesting building new parking facilities.

The Council then thanked Chief Prokop for an excellent report on the situation.

ASC Chair, Dr. Gerald Lesley, then introduced Norris Haynes of the Counseling and School Psychology Department to give a report on that department's programs. Dr. Haynes introduced professors Joy Fopiano, Uchenna Nwachuku, and Patricia De Barbieri to discuss various segments of CSP programs.

Basically, there are three programs within the department, Community Counseling, School Counseling, and School Psychology. The School Psychology Program entails both a Master's Degree and a Sixth Year Certificate. Both are needed for certification in the field. Currently the program has a 100% placement of its students. The School Counseling Program also has 100% placement of its students. It has an excellent reputation in the community, which helps to attract high quality students, and the majority of potential students who apply are turned away. The program does involve 1,200 hours of internship along with 100 hours a semester in practicum. The Community Counseling Program is only one of two such programs accredited in the state. It deals especially with problems related to substance abuse and mental health.

All three programs offered by the department are nationally accredited. Professor Haynes spoke, though, of the need for more clinical space on campus. The capstone experience for all three programs was the comprehensive exam.

Dr. Lesley then moved for Continuing Approval for the CSP Department's Graduate Program. The motion passed unanimously.

## **6. Adjournment**

Chairperson Killion adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ken Florey, Secretary