

Graduate Council

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 10, 2010

Present: Dr. James Badger, Ms. Jill Brady (non-voting), Dr. Michelle Byrne, Dr. Patricia Donat (Chair), Dr. Andy David, Ms. Linda Gooden (Institutional Effectiveness), Dr. Craig Greathouse, Dr. Dawn Hayes, Dr. Stefanie Palma, Dr. Richard Oates, Jonathan Ostrosky (student representative), Ms. Susan Perry (non-voting), Dr. Timothy May, Ms. Shawn Toner, Dr. Shane Webb (Faculty Associate)

Meeting commenced at 3:30 pm.

- I. Approval of November 11, 2009, Minutes
Motion to accept the minutes was made by Dr. Greathouse, second by Dr. Oates, all in favor, motion carried.

- II. Announcement of Course and Program Changes
 - A. School of Education – Dr. Oates
EDUC 6201, EDUC 6202, EDUC 6203, EDUC 6204 – new core for MED in Teaching & Learning
ISCI 6101, SIED 6001 – additional electives for MED/Science Education
TSLE 6001, TSLE 6002, TSLE 6003 – changes in prefix and numbering
 - B. School of Arts & Letters – Dr. May
HIST 6210, HIST 6212, HIST 6291, HIST 6631, and HIST 6891 – additional courses for the MA In History Program
 - C. Mike Cottrell School of Business – Dr. Donat for MBA Program
ECON 6240
 - D. School of Science & Health Professions/Nursing Education – Dr. Byrne
NURS 6270 – revision in credit hours
 - E. UNIV 6000 – Dr. Donat
0 fees, 0 hrs, gives students with IP grades access to campus resources to complete work

- III. New Business
 - A. Highlights from Graduate School Centennial – Dr. Byrne
Dr. Byrne attended the Georgia Graduate School Centennial Celebration at UGA and presented a power point presentation addressing the highlights Dr. Debra Stewart’s speech. Dr. Stewart is President of the Council of Graduate Schools and was the keynote speaker for the event. Dr. Stewart listed three keys for graduate success
 - Mission-oriented universities and programs
 - Record of student diversity
 - Robust and well established graduate school

Dr. Donat encouraged anyone interested in attending the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools’ annual meeting February 25-28, in Savannah, to do so with the newly-released travel funds. Dr. Donat mentioned the McNair Trio grant that also addresses diversity and encouraged those interested to participate in this grant writing opportunity.
 - B. Changes to Grade Appeal Policy – Dr. Donat
At the suggestion of Dr. Sisk, Academic Affairs, changes in the Student Grade Complaints section of the Academic Affairs Handbook were approved by Graduate Council on a motion

by Dr. Oates, second by Dr. Hayes. The changes make the selection of an appeal committee easier to satisfy and ensure the Student Handbook and the policy in the Graduate Bulletin are consistent.

C. Graduate Bulletin– Dr. Donat

A. Admission Requirements and Procedures

1. International Transcript Evaluations – On a motion by Dr. Palma, second by Dr. Greathouse, this section was edited to be consistent with newly-adopted university standards for only accepting evaluations from an independent evaluation service that is a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services, Inc. (NACES). The bulletin will also include a note for Education majors to check the GPSC web site for agency evaluators accepted by the GPSC. After a brief discussion about the placement of this information in the bulletin and with a friendly amendment, there will be an International Students section and a International Transcript section in the Admission Requirements and Procedures portion of the Graduate Bulletin, and the newly- approved statement will be added under the International Transcript section.
2. Admission Requirements and Procedures/Entrance Testing Requirements – Dr. Donat requested that a sentence be added informing applicants that some programs may exempt the entrance testing requirement if evidence of a graduate degree is submitted. The statement directs t applicants to see the program for details. On a motion by Dr. Palma, second by Dr. Oates, the edit to the bulletin was approved.

D. Old Business

1. Development of a generic survey of graduate students subcommittee report – Dr. Hayes reported that the subcommittee established that the graduate student survey objective was to look at the responses of graduate students across the board for internal purposes, program goals, and SACS needs. The subcommittee compared a developed survey that could be purchased presented by Dr. Donat at the November 11, 2009, Graduate Council meeting to the development of an Instant Survey document in-house. After some discussion, it was agreed by Council to
 - Develop an Instant Survey document by using Google docs to implement collaborative work to finish a survey in three weeks (March 3) so the survey could be approved at the next Graduate Council meeting on March 24.
 - Once approved by Council, the survey will be administered electronically to graduate students at the end of the Spring 2010 term.
 - Follow up and additional feedback from Graduate Student Senate members will be solicited.

DPT and Nursing Ed volunteered their students to pilot the survey.

2. Student Conduct – Dr. Palma informed Council that the subcommittee did meet with Dr. Clower but no solid resolution or consensus was reached. After discussion of what was needed and why, the differences in academic matters that are resolved through the Office of Academic Affairs and matters that should be resolved through the Office of Student Affairs, due process statements, etc., it was agreed that Dr. Donat would

develop a draft for the graduate bulletin.

E. Announcements

1. Next graduate council meeting is scheduled for March 24, 3:30 pm.
2. Shawn Toner encouraged everyone to participate in the LibQual survey and to encourage graduate students to participate as well.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Perry