

MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 16, 1995

MEMBERS PRESENT: Karen A. Holbrook, Chair; Karen A. Bjorndal, William Chamberlin, Patricia Craddock, Susan Frost, Joan Herrera, David A. Jones, Mary Grace Kantowski, Rachel Shireman, Anita Spring, Richard Yost

MEMBERS ABSENT: Nicholae Cristescu, Philip Posner, Scotty Powers

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. John Capinera, Dr. Steve DeKrey, Dr. Donna Duckworth, Dr. Jack Fry, Dr. Gene Hemp, Ruth Trocolli

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Richard Lutz, Helen Martin, Dr. Michael Phillip, Phyl Schmidt, Julie Shih, Bernice Thornton

STAFF ABSENT: Dorothy Long

The Graduate Council meeting was called to order by Dr. Karen Holbrook at 1:00 p.m. She announced that Joan Herrera had received an Honorable Mention for the inaugural Alpha Epsilon Lambda outstanding graduate student award presented at the recent Conference of Southern Graduate Schools meeting. She also reported that Dean Schwartz of the College of Pharmacy had informed her that, in response to the Council's concerns raised in regard to the Drug Discovery concentration, he is reorganizing the College to provide more coordination and accountability with respect to the College's graduate program.

ACTION ITEMS

1. The minutes of the January 19, 1995, meeting of the Graduate Council were approved.
2. Drs. Hemp, Fry and Capinera discussed the cooperative degree program in Entomology between the University of Florida and Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. They clarified that this is the first cooperative program of its type and that it is considered important by both the UF and FAMU faculty involved. Council concurred that such joint programs are desirable and approved the program unanimously.
3. Drs. DeKrey and Duckworth presented the joint Master of Business Administration/Master of Science in Molecular Genetics and Microbiology degree. They clarified that the program is intended for students with a science background, and in response to questions from the Council members, agreed that the program could serve as a pilot program for a number of joint programs in the general arena of technology transfer. The program was approved unanimously.

4. Dr. DeKrey requested blanket approval for University of Florida faculty enrolling in the weekend MBA for Managers program. Because it is conceivable that College of Business faculty members may enroll in the program, they would not be covered by the exemption. Council was generally supportive of the program, viewing it as a form of faculty development that should be encouraged. There was concern, however, that the blanket exemption may permit a faculty member to pursue the degree without discussing it with his/her supervisor. However, since letters of recommendation are required, and the supervisor's signature is required for a partial tuition waiver, this did not seem to be a critical concern. After further discussion, Council unanimously approved the following motion:

"Provide blanket exemption to the MBA for Managers program for faculty outside the College of Business Administration with approval of immediate supervisor."

5. The Council unanimously approved a request from the Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology to change graduate program name from Medical Sciences--Immunology and Medical Microbiology to Medical Sciences--Molecular Genetics and Microbiology. This change corresponds with an earlier change in the name of the department.
6. The Council discussed the College of Medicine's request to delete the interdisciplinary graduate program in Cell Structure and Function. The question of why such a seemingly well-conceived program has apparently failed was raised. The program may have been too broad-based (over 100 faculty were associated with it), leading to a very diffuse focus. Very few students opted to enroll in it, and no strong "core" experience was developed (e.g., a proseminar series) that could have given the program more identity and cohesion. Overall, this was an interesting experiment in attempting to attract a different type of student into the College of Medicine; unfortunately, it was not well-organized enough to succeed.

After some discussion, Council decided to table the item until its next meeting, pending notification of Dr. Carl Feldherr, the program director. It was thought desirable to seek his input prior to eliminating the program.

7. A nominating committee comprised of the four outgoing Council members, Drs. Chamberlin, Kantowski, Posner and Yost, was appointed. The committee will present a slate of six or more candidates to the Council for discussion at the March meeting.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. The Senate Constitution Committee needs to receive any revisions of the material pertaining to the Graduate School by April, so the March agenda will include relevant items in that regard.
2. A typographical error was noted in the definition of the fieldwork/internship full-time equivalent. In line 6, "on" should read "or."

3. A general meeting of the Graduate Faculty will be held February 21 to inform the faculty of Graduate School activities and seek input relative to the Legislative Showcase in April.