

MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
March 18, 1999
1:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Jack Ohanian, Chair, Dr. Carol Reed Ash, Dr. Barbara Barletta, Dr. Christine Chase, Dr. Steve Dorman, Dr. Frederick Gregory, Dr. Pushpa Kalra, Dr. Frank Nordlie, Dr. Hugh Popenoe, Dr. Ann Progulske-Fox, Dr. Jerry Stimac, Ms. Trish Ventura

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Joseph Delfino, Dr. Michael Perfit

GUESTS PRESENT: Mr. Wes Wilson

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Richard Lutz, Dr. Dovie Gamble, Ms. Helen Martin, Ms. Phyl Schmidt, Ms. Julie Shih, Ms. Linda Vivian

The Graduate Council meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Dr. Jack Ohanian.

I. **ACTION ITEMS**

1. The minutes of the Graduate Council meeting of February 18, 1999, were approved as written.
2. Dr. Sue Rosser and Dr. Pat Miller presented a proposal to establish an MA degree (thesis) in women's studies and a Master of Women's Studies degree (nonthesis) with specializations in gender, culture and society, and women, science, and development. Currently, an interdisciplinary PhD concentration and two types of graduate certificates are offered. These new degrees represent the next logical step in the development of this program to expand the educational, research, and employment opportunities in gender related issues. *The Council approved the proposal unanimously.*
3. Dr. Arnold Penland, Dr. Giacomo Oliva, and Dr. Budd Udell presented a proposal to offer a new PhD degree in music to supplement the existing doctoral degree in music education. The current degree is not broad enough to encompass the expansion of the program into interdisciplinary collaborations from a cultural and sociological perspective. As a creative discipline, dissertations would consist of a major musical composition incorporating research in the creative piece and not extensively authored as prose. Establishing a general music degree at the doctoral level would provide opportunities for greater range in types of dissertations and provide a unique interdisciplinary niche to compete for students nationally. *The Council approved the proposal unanimously.*
4. Dr. Ron Randles and Dr. Karl Hackenbrack presented a proposal to establish a co-major in statistics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and accounting in the College of Business Administration. The partnership allows students to expand and contribute to the research of both disciplines and provides a competitive edge in the job market.

Concern was expressed by the Council that without an integrated framework, students might be caught between differing expectations from supervisory committee members. It was recommended

that the student be admitted to one program initially, which will be designated as the major department. When the supervisory committee is formed, the co-major department admits the student, signs the form, and notifies the Graduate School. The supervisory committee will consist of the chair (major department) and co-chair (co-major department) with other committee members representing both departments and an external member representing a third department. *The Council approved the proposal unanimously with the recommendations as amendments.*

5. Dr. Donna Duckworth from the College of Medicine and Dr. Craig Tapley from the MBA program presented a proposal for a curriculum change to the MS/MBA degree requirements. When the program was established, the medical courses were offered under the auspices of the Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology. Shortly after Graduate Council approval, the College of Medicine converted its PhD program to the collegewide interdisciplinary program and canceled several of the graduate courses in the department taken by master's students. The MS program was reviewed and it was determined that a collegewide master's program could be substituted for the departmental program that would provide more intense research to offset the reduction from 44 to 38 credits of formal course work. The proposal requests approval for the reduction of credits (to be retroactively applied to current students) and the change to a collegewide program administered by the College of Medicine. *The Council approved the proposal unanimously.*
6. Dr. Scotty Powers from the Department of Exercise and Sports Sciences presented a proposal to add exercise physiology as a concentration to the PhD in health and human performance. Currently, exercise physiology is functioning as a specialization. Council members asked for clarification of the terms concentration and specialization. Dr. Richard Lutz explained that a concentration is a Graduate School approved track under a BOR approved degree program. It is assigned a track code, and appears on the transcript, as for example, Doctor of Philosophy with a major in business administration with a concentration in marketing. A specialization is an informal track under a concentration, such as the consumer behavior specialization in marketing. It is not approved by the Graduate School or BOR and does not appear on the transcript. *The Council approved the proposal unanimously.*
7. The proposal to revise the *Graduate Catalog* regarding the requirement for students pursuing a nonthesis option to pass a written examination was tabled because the intent of the proposal was not clear and the preparer was unable to attend.
8. The Graduate School presented a proposal requesting clarification of the policy of dropping graduate courses with a grade of "W" after the deadline established in the University calendar. Although the *Graduate Catalog* references the *Undergraduate Catalog* policy, in practice, graduate students are allowed greater flexibility than undergraduate students in dropping a course past the deadline if they meet enrollment minimums. In some cases, withdrawals have been processed for classes taken in previous terms. *The Graduate Council voted 11-1 to enforce the University deadline and require Graduate School approval for withdrawals after the deadline.*

9. The nominating committee presented a slate of nominees for the Graduate Council, 1999-2002. The four Council members whose terms end this year are from Art, Environmental Engineering, Horticultural Sciences, and Oral Biology. The term is three years, with four members (two elected by the Graduate Faculty and two appointed by the Provost) retiring each year. The Council determined that eight nominees were excessive for the two elected positions and reduced the list to four nominees. The following faculty have agreed to be nominated for the two elected positions beginning Fall 1999:

Gijs Bosman	Professor	Electrical and Computer Engineering
Dawn Bowers	Associate Professor	Clinical and Health Psychology
Jon Hamilton	Professor	Economics
Ofelia Schutte	Professor	Philosophy

10. The Graduate School presented a revised version of the Guidelines for Developing a New Degree Program. *The Council approved the revision unanimously.*
11. The *Graduate Catalog* contains courses that have not been taught within the five-year limit as prescribed by the Board of Regents. However, within the policy is a provision for those courses to be identified annually, but still listed in the *Catalog* at the request of departments.

Concern was expressed that the *Catalog* should reflect active course offerings, and to list courses not routinely offered is unfair to students. *The Council recommended a meeting with the Office of the University Registrar be arranged to develop a procedure for eliminating courses not taught within the last five years from the Graduate Catalog; these would be retained in the University's inventory as approved courses but would only appear in the Catalog if they were scheduled to be offered.*

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. The 1999 Named Presidential Fellowship awardees were announced. Twenty-five awardees were selected from 53 highly qualified candidates.
2. Graduate Student Teaching Award recipients will be honored at a reception on March 31st in the Friends of Music room.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.