

MINUTES  
GRADUATE COUNCIL  
December 22, 1999  
1:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Winfred Phillips, Chair, Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Acting Chair, Dr. Gijs Bosman, Dr. Dawn Bowers, Dr. Dr. Steve Dorman, Dr. Frederick Gregory, Dr. Pushpa Kalra, Dr. Bob Kennedy, Dr. Frank Nordlie, Dr. Jill Peterson, Dr. Hugh Popenoe, Dr. Jerry Stimac, Mr. Wes Wilson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Carol Reed Ash, Dr. Michael Perfit,

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Scott Griffiths, Dr. Stephanie Hanson, Dr. Marian Limacher, Dr. Ken Quesenberry, Dr. Colin Sumners

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Dovie Gamble, Ms. Linda Vivian, Ms. Gann Enholm, Ms. Helen Martin, Ms. Julie Shih, Ms. Bernice Thornton

Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, acting chair at the request of Dr. Win Phillips, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. The Council expressed their appreciation to Ms. Bernice Thornton, executive secretary, as she retires from the University of Florida

**I. ACTION ITEMS**

1. The minutes of the November 18, 1999, Graduate Council meeting were approved as written.
2. Dr. Ken Quesenberry from the Department of Agronomy presented a proposal to delete the Master of Agriculture degree from the department degree list in the *Graduate Catalog*. The college has decided to reserve this degree for students in the distance learning program to indicate a professional degree versus a scientific degree. Additionally, the MAg degree is not readily recognized internationally. *The Council approved the proposal unanimously.*
3. Dr. Colin Sumners and Dr. Marian Limacher from the College of Medicine presented a proposal to create a new concentration in clinical investigation within the existing M.S. in medical sciences. The purpose is to provide clinical medical trainees and faculty with the background and skills necessary to conduct clinical research. This multidisciplinary concentration is not designed to be a bridge to the Ph.D. and would not be used as a stand-alone master's degree. All applicants will have taken the GRE or MCAT. Because it is a clinical research degree versus a scientific research degree, the MCAT is proposed as a substitute for the GRE.

The Council expressed concern about the appropriateness of the substitution and about potential conflict of interest issues resulting from faculty as students being supervised by other faculty. Normally, faculty cannot obtain a graduate degree from their own departments to avoid ethical and social conflicts. *The Council voted to table consideration of the proposal with 8 in favor and 2 opposed. The department will establish a mechanism to handle conflict of interest problems and provide additional information about MCAT substitution for the GRE. It was requested that the GRE requirement be scheduled as a discussion item at a future meeting.*

4. Dr. Stephanie Hanson from the College of Health Professions and Dr. Scott Griffiths from the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, presented a proposal to continue the GRE waiver for certain students in the audiology-distance learning (LS/ADL) program with previous master's or professional degrees in the following categories:
- Applicants with a U.S. master's degree in audiology
  - Foreign-trained U.S. applicants/resident aliens with a master's degree in audiology
  - Applicant with a U.S. Ph.D., M.D., or J.D. degree
  - Foreign-trained U.S. applicants/resident aliens with a Ph.D., M.D., or J.D. degree

As a clinical degree, no dissertation is required. This waiver does not include students in the on-campus audiology program. *The Council approved the proposal with 6 in favor and 4 opposed.*

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.