

MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
September 21, 2000
1:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Acting Chair, Dr. Carol Reed Ash, Dr. Gijs Bosman, Dr. Dawn Bowers, Dr. William Calin, Dr. Lauren Chapman, Dr. Pushpa Kalra, Dr. Jill Peterson, Dr. Jerry Stimac, Dr. Henri Van Rinsvelt,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Winfred Phillips, Chair, Dr. Bob Kennedy, Dr. Stephen Pearton

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Myrna Courage, Dr. Jane Luzar, Ms. Jaimee Perez, Mr. Steve Pritz,

STAFF PRESENT: Ms. Linda Vivian, Ms. Gann Enholm, Ms. Helen Martin, Mr. Maurice Sarns, Ms. Lorna Dishman

Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

I. INFORMATION ITEMS

The new members of the Graduate Council were introduced along with the Graduate Student Council alternate representative and the University Registrar or her representative as a permanent guest.

II. ACTION ITEMS

1. The minutes of the May 18, 2000, Graduate Council meeting were approved as written.
2. Dr. Jane Luzar, Associate Dean, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, presented a proposal for a program name change from Human Resource Development to Family, Youth, and Community Sciences. By making this change, the title reflects the program content, is consistent with the undergraduate degree, and eliminates the misconception that it is a business degree. *The Council approved the proposal unanimously.*
3. Dr. Myrna Courage, Associate Dean, College of Nursing, presented a proposal for a cooperative degree with the University of South Florida for a M.S. in Nursing degree with a specialty in midwifery. The University of Florida is the only institution in the state offering this specialty. Students from USF would be permitted to transfer 24 credits of core graduate coursework to UF and take their clinical work under the supervision of UF faculty onsite in Tampa. The curriculum at both institutions is chiefly standardized because of accreditation requirements, and both universities have

determined, in consultation, the course equivalencies. The University of Florida would confer the master's degree. *The Council approved the proposal unanimously.*

4. Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Associate Dean, Graduate School, presented a proposal to formalize the relationship between the Graduate Council and Graduate Curriculum Committee. Over the years, the Committee has drifted into a totally independent review process, functioning in isolation from the Council. With the increasing complexity in graduate programs, working in collaboration would restore a holistic approach to program evaluation.

As a standing committee of the Council, the Curriculum Committee should be comprised of faculty appointed by the dean for three-year terms. The Associate Dean will chair the committee with administrative support from the Graduate School staff. Courses in existing degree programs approved by the Committee will be included as an information item on the Council agenda. New program proposals will include the curriculum component. Once courses are approved, the Graduate Council will consider the proposal and curriculum for final action.

The Council unanimously approved the standing committee structure and appointment process, with a request for the Graduate School to submit a review plan process for the new program proposal with the curriculum component.

III. DISCUSSION ITEM

1. The Provost has established an admissions task force to review the One Florida Initiative that eliminates affirmative action in admissions. The charge of the task force is to recommend a process that complies with the initiative while maintaining a diverse graduate student body. The task force, chaired by Kenneth Gerhardt, Associate Dean of the Graduate School, and comprised of eight representatives from across campus, are evaluating the admissions review process in the context of defining diversity in a broader sense. Traditionally, admissions decisions have been based primarily on the quantitative factors of undergraduate grade point average and test scores. Integrating a qualitative component that considers the statement of purpose, research interest, and letters of recommendations along with quantitative features is under consideration by the task force.
2. Some of the items that will be discussed at future meetings were announced: ETD requirement, the UF constitution, *Graduate Catalog* revision, and the Web Board.

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