

MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
October 19, 2000
1:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Winfred Phillips, Chair, Dr. Carol Reed Ash, Dr. Gijs Bosman, Dr. William Calin, Dr. Lauren Chapman, Dr. Jill Peterson, Dr. Jerry Stimac, Dr. Henri Van Rinsvelt, Ms. Raina Joines

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Dawn Bowers, Dr. Pushpa Kalra, Dr. Bob Kennedy, Dr. Stephen Pearton

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Jimmy Cheek, Dr. George Agrios, Ms. Jaimee Perez, Ms. Barbara Talmadge

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Ms. Linda Vivian, Ms. Gann Enholm, Ms. Helen Martin, Ms. Lorna Dishman

Dr. Winfred Phillips, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. The minutes of the September 21, 2000, Graduate Council meeting were approved as written.
2. Dr. Jimmy Cheek, Dean, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, presented a proposal for a Doctor of Plant Medicine degree program. The DPM degree was developed to meet the growing needs of farmers and horticulturists in finding methods to manage pests. The program requires 120 graduate credits, of which 30 credits will be an internship supervised by faculty. Students will be guided by a major professor and a three-member supervisory committee derived from the Departments of Agronomy, Horticultural Sciences, Environmental Horticulture, Soil and Water Sciences, Entomology and Nematology, and Plant Pathology. A written or oral comprehensive examination must be satisfactorily completed in the three areas of plant and soil sciences, entomology and nematology, and plant pathology. *The Council approved the proposal unanimously.*
3. Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Associate Dean, Graduate School, provided the clarification requested from the Council regarding the review process for new program proposals. The Council approved the standing committee structure and appointment process for the Graduate Curriculum Committee at the last meeting. A flow chart was provided to graphically illustrate the coordinated review process by the Graduate School and the Graduate Curriculum Committee before new programs are presented to the Graduate Council for approval. *The Council approved the review plan unanimously.*

4. Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Associate Dean, Graduate School, presented a proposal to require electronic submission of theses and dissertations for students admitted to the Fall 2001 term and thereafter. Exceptions would be considered on a case-by-case basis when submitted in writing by the department to the Graduate School, intended for student that are off-campus during the semester the thesis is to be considered. Access issues are addressed by a three-tiered system allowing students options to post to the World Wide Web, to the university only, or totally restrict access for a certain period of time for patent and other publication purposes.

UF is a national leader in the development of electronic theses and dissertations (ETD). Since the Graduate Council formally authorized the ETD option in December 1998, about 100 theses and dissertations have been submitted electronically. The Council expressed some concern about mandating electronic submission for all academic disciplines, rather than maintaining ETD as an option. However, among the benefits of ETDs are greater accessibility to scholarship, opportunities to include multi-media, and cost/space savings for libraries. The Graduate School is working with the Office of Instructional Resources and the Smathers Libraries to provide editorial, technical and archival support for the ETD program. *The Council approved the proposal unanimously.*

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.