

MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
February 15, 2001
1:30 p.m.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Dawn Bowers, Dr. Bob Kennedy, Dr. Stephen Pearton, Ms. Jaimee Perez

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. John Sutherland, Ms. Barbara Talmadge

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Mr. Gary Hartge, 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 January 18, 2001 Graduate Council meeting were unanimously approved as written.
2. Dr. John Sutherland from the College of Journalism and Communications presented a proposal for a new Masters of Advertising degree. The purpose of this new thesis degree is to provide a strong media and advertising sales management orientation. The program offers a variety of tracks to meet the growing needs of the field. Initially, it will have one specialization, Advertising Sales Management. Other specializations may be added later. It would make the University of Florida the first university to offer a master's degree with an advertising sales management specialization. *The Council approved the proposal unanimously. Effective, Spring 2001.*

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt from the Graduate School asked for input from the Graduate Council regarding a Mentoring Awards Program to recognize and promote faculty who chair doctoral dissertation committees. The program would provide cash awards to a small number of graduate faculty and supplemental funding for support of their graduate students. In addition, letters of recognition will be sent to all faculty who graduated a doctoral student.

The Council considered including faculty who chair master's committees, but it was decided to concentrate on the faculty who chair doctoral dissertation and MFA committees. The Council voiced strong support for the program.

2. Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt from the Graduate School sought guidance regarding requests for retroactive withdrawals and what constitutes reasonable academic progress. The Council agreed that unless there is a legitimate reason, the Graduate School would not support requests for retroactive withdrawals. Individual programs should be responsible for setting guidelines regarding reasonable academic progress.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.