

MINUTES  
GRADUATE COUNCIL  
October 18, 2001  
1:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Acting Chair, Dr. Gijs Bosman,  
Dr. Lauren Chapman, Dr. Marjorie Hoy, Dr. Jill  
Peterson, Dr. Henri Van Rinsvelt

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Winfred Phillips, Chair, Dr. James Algina, Dr.  
Dawn Bowers, Dr. William Calin, Dr. Richard Condit,  
Dr. Kirk Hatfield, Dr. James Jones, Dr. Bob Kennedy,  
Dr. Stephen Pearton, Ms. Jaimee Perez

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Raphael Haftka

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Dovie Gamble, Ms. Linda Vivian, Ms. Gann  
Enholm, Mr. Gary Hartge, Ms. Helen Martin

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

**I. ACTION ITEMS**

1. The minutes of the September 20, 2001, Graduate Council meeting were approved as written.
2. Dr. Raphael Haftka from the College of Engineering presented a proposal for a Ph.D. degree to be jointly conferred to Laurent Grosset by the University of Florida and the Ecole de Mines in St. Etienne, France. Mr. Grosset is a doctoral student in engineering mechanics in the Department of Aerospace Engineering, Mechanics and Engineering Science. This agreement for a single student would be used as a model in developing a formal institutional agreement for future students. Jointly conferred degrees are routinely done in Europe to provide cooperative research opportunities and an employment advantage for the student. Although the degree would be jointly conferred, Mr. Grosset would meet all University of Florida requirements for the Ph.D. degree.

Council members discussed the logic of approving an individualized agreement rather than tabling the issue until a general policy template could be submitted to address all jointly conferred degrees. Although the process to obtain approval for an individualized agreement is time intensive, some Council members believed that it provides a good test case to identify potential problems before establishing a standardized agreement for the university. Additional questions were raised about how a jointly conferred degree enhances the academic experience and benefits the University of Florida.

*Because of the unique nature of this proposal and the precedent it would set for other agreements, the Council approved the proposal in a 4-1 vote and requests that this proposal be added to the UCC agenda for comment and then forwarded to the Faculty Senate as an action item.*

### **III. INFORMATION ITEM**

The combined B.S./M.S. degree program in chemical engineering was administratively approved by the Graduate School and will be forwarded to the University Curriculum Committee as an information item for the graduate degree and as an action item for the undergraduate degree.

### **IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. The Graduate Council suggested that the Graduate Curriculum Committee be invited to Council meetings.
2. Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt requested the Council's participation in a review of the UF Constitution to make suggestions to the Faculty Senate for revisions.

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