

MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
January 16, 2003
1:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Acting Chair, Dr. James Algina, Dr. Russell Bauer, Dr. William Calin, Dr. Lauren Chapman, Dr. Richard Condit, Mr. Jason Gainous, Dr. Marjorie Hoy, Dr. James Jones, Dr. Stephen Pearton, Dr. Jose Principe, Dr. Richard Romano, Dr. Henri Van Rinsvelt

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Winfred Phillips, Chair, Dr. Jeffrey Adler, Dr. Christiana Leonard

GUESTS PRESENT: Mr. Chris Sessums, Dr. Margaret James, Mr. Bill Radunovich, Dr. Ian Tebbett, Dr. Bud Viessman, Ms. Corrine Willits

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

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

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. The minutes of the December 16, 2002, Graduate Council meeting were approved unanimously.
2. Dr. Ian Tebbett and Dr. Margaret James from the College of Pharmacy presented a proposal for two new concentrations in pharmaceutical sciences for the MS in Pharmacy degree. These concentrations will be offered in a distance- learning format geared toward working professionals. It does not contain a lab component; however, the electronic format allows for virtual reality crime scenes and generates worldwide interaction. Most of the courses are already established and part of a certificate program. The new courses have been approved by the Graduate Curriculum Committee. Students will travel to Tampa for the oral and written comprehensive final examination. *The Council approved the proposal unanimously.*
3. Dr. Bud Viessman from the College of Engineering presented a proposal for the Master of Engineering and nonthesis Master of Science degree. The request is for engineering majors to reduce the number of total credits from 32 to 30 and eliminate the requirement for a comprehensive examination. The ME degree is only available for students with a bachelor's degree in engineering from an accredited engineering program or students who have completed articulation courses as required by the accrediting agency. The Master of Science degree is for students with or without an engineering degree. Many other institutions offer similar master's programs designed for a one-year completion, which minimizes time to degree and cost for tuition waivers.

The Council acknowledged that the ME, as a college-based degree, needed more flexibility. However, they were reluctant to change requirements for the MS degree, which is a

university-wide degree, based solely on this proposal. The two degrees were considered separately. *The Council approved the changes to the ME degree unanimously, effective Fall 2003. The proposal for the MS degree was tabled.*

4. Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt from the Graduate School appointed retiring Council members William Calin, Lauren Chapman, Stephen Pearton, Henri Van Rinsvelt, and Jason Gainous to serve as the nominating committee for electing new members to serve for the 2003-2006 term. The committee will provide recommendations to the Graduate Council at the February meeting to finalize the slate of nominees.

III. INFORMATION ITEM

International students not on appointment may register for 9 credits to be considered full-time for administrative purposes and INS reporting. The Provost provided a letter to the UF International Center stating the requirement. International students must register appropriately for an assistantship or fellowship and meet department registration requirements, if higher. Exceptions may be granted on a case-by-case basis by departmental request for students in lockstep programs.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.