

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Winfred Phillips, Chair, Dr. James Algina, Dr. Russell Bauer, Dr. Richard Condit, Dr. Robert Holt, Dr. Ann Horgas, Dr. Marjorie Hoy, Dr. Christiana Leonard, Dr. Richard Romano, Mr. Bill Radunovich,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Jeffrey Adler, Dr. James Jones, Dr. Jose Principe, Dr. David Tanner

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Mark Brown, Dr. Joe Champagne, Dr. Joel Houston, Mr. Barclay Key, Dr. John Kraft, Dr. Bud Viessman, Ms. Corrine Willits

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Ms. Linda Vivian, Ms. Gann Enholm, Mr. Gary Hartge, Ms. Gerri Marder, Ms. Helen Martin

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

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. The minutes of the September 18, 2003, Graduate Council meeting were approved unanimously.
2. Dr. Viessman from the College of Engineering presented a proposal to waive the GRE requirement for the participants in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers cooperative Master of Science and Master of Engineering degree programs. Other universities participating in this program do not require the GRE of these participants. USACE students enrolled in the master's program are expected to spend one semester on the UF campus during which time they will complete at least 15 credits of course work. Of the remaining credits, 6-9 credits can be taken at another institution upon approval, and the rest can be taken online from UF. Students applying for admission to the UF program will have been selected by the Corps based on outstanding performance record and their potential for assuming senior positions in the Corps. The USACE will provide complete financial support. Dr. Viessman expressed the hope that other federal agencies will be interested in participating upon success of this cooperative venture.

Concern was expressed about inequity with other students in same degree program and the deterioration of admission requirements in granting a blanket waiver for a particular group. Discussion followed about the value of the GRE for admitting students in this cooperative program and the admissions review process. *The Council approved the proposal with 8 in favor and 1 opposed, effective Spring 2004.*

3. Dr. Mark Brown representing the Wetlands Academic Cluster (WAC) presented a proposal for an interdisciplinary concentration and graduate certificate in wetlands sciences to be offered under majors in agricultural and biological engineering, botany, civil engineering, environmental engineering sciences, fisheries and aquatic sciences, geography, geology, landscape architecture, forest resources and conservation, soil and water science, urban and regional planning, wildlife ecology and conservation, and zoology. Faculty from these programs and from the College of Law will participate in offering courses. The objective is to establish a standard set of courses and activities that provide graduate students knowledge and experience that complement their majors and wetlands. Students in these degree programs meeting the curriculum requirements of the concentration will receive official recognition by a statement on the student's transcript and issued a certificate. *The Council approved the proposal unanimously, Spring 2004.*
4. Dr. John Kraft from the College of Business Administration presented a proposal for a new concentration in entrepreneurship added to the MS in Business Administration. The concentration is intended for part-time students who are working in small, start-up companies, or interested in new ventures. Students do not need a business background and the curriculum is lockstep. Some faculty from the Department of Food and Resource Economics will teach some of the courses. The college anticipates that the off-book program will enrolled 40-50 students. It requires no new faculty. *The Council approved the proposal with 8 in favor and 1 abstention, effective Spring 2004*
5. Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt from the Graduate School presented a proposal from the College of Business Administration as an information item to the Council. The proposal to offer the existing MS in Business Administration-Real Estate in lieu of the MA degree was administratively approved by the Graduate School since both programs are in an active status. Dr. Gerhardt requested clarification from Dr. Kraft about the college's intention to formally sunset the MA concentration in real estate since it would not be offered. Dr. Kraft agreed that this was an appropriate action. *The Council commended the college for deleting a concentration and unanimously approved a motion to formally sunset the MA concentration, effective Spring 2004.*

II. Information Item

The Graduate School demonstrated the new Graduate Information Management Systems (GIMS) relational database that replaces the NERDC flat-file computer system.

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