

MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
November 20, 2003
1:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Acting Chair; Dr. James Algina; Dr. Russell Bauer; Dr. Richard Condit; Dr. Robert Holt; Dr. Christiana Leonard; Dr. Jose Principe; Dr. Richard Romano; Mr. Bill Radunovich

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Winfred Phillips, Chair; Dr. Jeffrey Adler; Dr. Thomas Crisman; Dr. Ann Horgas-Marsiske; Dr. Marjorie Hoy; Dr. James Jones; Dr. David Tanner; Mr. Barclay Key

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Robert Wheeler, Dr. Stephen Dodd, Dr. Jeffrey Burkhardt; Prof. Michael Friel, Prof. David Hudson, Ms. Gail Sasnett, Ms. Linda Kirby, Mr. Steve Pritz

STAFF PRESENT: Ms. Gann Enholm, Mr. Gary Hartge, Ms. Helen Martin

Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. The minutes of the October 16, 2003, Graduate Council meeting with the corrected date were approved unanimously.
2. Dr. Jeffrey Burkhardt presented the proposal to change the required minimum semester hours in the Master of Agribusiness degree from 33 to 30. He explained that currently 30 of the 33 hours are in a lock-step sequence with the remaining 3 hours an elective taken during Summer A. However, it is proving to be increasingly difficult for students to find an appropriate elective, even Individual Study. Since the minimum semester hours for the nonthesis option to the Master of Science degree became 30 hours this fall, the Department of Food and Resource Economics wants to bring the Master of Agribusiness requirements into line with the university minimum. *The Council unanimously approved the proposal effective Fall Semester 2004.*
3. Dr. Robert Wheeler presented the proposal to change the name of the Master of Science in Health Science Education degree to Master of Science and change the program name to Health Education and Behavior. The Master of Science degree would include three options: thesis, project in lieu of thesis, and nonthesis. All three options would require a minimum of 36 semester hours (an increase of 6 hours) and a comprehensive examination.

In addition, the proposal included sun-setting the current nonthesis Master of Health Science Education degree and two concentrations—Exercise and Sport Pedagogy,

and Special Physical Education/Exercise Therapy— for the Master of Exercise and Sport Sciences and Master of Science in Exercise and Sport Sciences degrees. These concentrations have been moved to the Health Science Education Department with the Graduate Faculty who supervise them as part of the restructuring of the College of Health and Human Performance. *The Council unanimously approved the proposal effective Fall Semester 2004.*

II. DISCUSSION ITEM

Prof. Michael Friel, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Director of the Master of Laws in Taxation program, led the discussion of the College of Law's proposed grading scale. He was accompanied by Prof. David Hudson, Director of the Master of Laws in Comparative Law program; Ms. Linda Kirby, Office Manager for Comparative Law; and Ms. Gail Sasnett, Associate Dean for Student Affairs. The grading scale approved by the College of Law faculty would include minus grades and an A+ possibility for the truly exceptional student. The proposal needs approval of the University Curriculum Committee and the Faculty Senate. The Council members were generally supportive of adding more grade options for the professor but questioned the difficulties and costs involved in the University maintaining two or more grading systems.

III. INFORMATION ITEM

Dr. Gerhardt displayed sample histograms from the Graduate School's Time to Degree and Credit Hours Completed projects for PhD graduates. Each figure displays data for individual departments, colleges (or college divisions), and the University as a histogram. The Graduate School plans to post time to degree and credit hours completed for PhD graduates from 1989 to 2003 on the Graduate Information Management System (GIMS). Departments and colleges may use these data to better manage the progress of PhD students.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.