

MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
February 19, 2004
1:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Chair; Dr. Jeffrey Adler; Dr. Russell Bauer; Dr. Richard Condit; Dr. Thomas Crisman; Dr. Robert Holt; Dr. Ann Horgas-Marsiske; Mr. Bill Radunovich

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. James Algina; Dr. Marjorie Hoy; Dr. James Jones; Dr. Christiana Leonard; Dr. Jose Principe; Dr. Richard Romano; Dr. David Tanner

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Winfred Phillips; Dr. E. Jane Luzar; Mr. Steve Pritz

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

Due to a university organizational change, the Vice President for Research relinquished his concurrent title of Dean of the Graduate School. Dr. Winfred Phillips, Vice President for Research thanked the Council for their work and stepped down as Council Chair. Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, the Interim Dean of the Graduate School and the new Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. The minutes of the January 15, 2004, Graduate Council meeting were approved with a correction to the attendance.
2. Dr. E. Jane Luzar presented a proposal to sunset the Master of Agriculture nonthesis degree in microbiology and cell science, and reinstitute the Master of Science nonthesis option. This degree option is intended to be the graduate portion of the combined bachelor's/master's degree. Most of the undergraduates are pre-professional in the health sciences so that a MAg degree is not appealing to prospective participants and has been traditionally used as a terminal degree. There are currently no students in this MAg degree program. *The Council approved the proposal unanimously, effective Summer 2004.*
3. Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt presented a proposal for a new individualized interdisciplinary PhD degree. The major would be determined by the student in conjunction with the supervisory committee. The program is intended for graduate students who are interested in developing a field of study that is currently not present on campus and that blends two or more different disciplines. The goals are to expand the flexibility of graduate education by offering a program designed to meet the unique interdisciplinary need of doctoral students and to identify emerging areas of research

with available faculty expertise that are not currently present on campus in any organized way. The student, in conjunction with the supervisory committee, would design the program of study and determine the title for the major. A subcommittee of the Graduate Council would provide university oversight of all interdisciplinary doctoral programs to admit and track students in the program. All policies for the PhD degree would be fulfilled except for a waiver of the requirement that credit for doctoral research be counted only from one academic unit. Because of the program's collaborative nature, students would be able to receive major credit from more than one academic unit. The challenge will be to break down barriers and implement a reward structure for faculty who collaborate. *The Council approved the proposal unanimously, effective Spring 2005 with Faculty Senate and Board of Governors approval.*

II. INFORMATION ITEM

1. Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt provided a draft for the Graduate Catalog on supervisory committees, as requested by the Council. The modification, although more procedural that is usually provided in the catalog, more closely resembles the information published in the online Policy Manual. The Council members endorsed the modification with a substitution of "academic unit" for "department," to more accurately reflect other organizational structures that mentor PhD students.
2. The nominating committee will finalize the slate of nominates for 2004-2007. The names will be brought forward for full Council consideration at the March meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.