

**MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 15, 2005
1:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Chair; Dr. Jane Brockmann; Dr. Thomas Crisman; Dr. Eileen Fennell; Dr. Abraham Hartzema; Dr. Ann Horgas-Marsiske; Ms. Jensen Montambault Dr. Panagote Pardalos; Ms. Cynthia Puranik; Dr. Dietmar Siemann; Dr. Colin Sumners; Dr. David Tanner

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Kenneth Campbell; Dr. Robert Holt; Dr. Linda Hon

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Henry Baker; Dr. Kenneth Berns; Dr. George Casella; Dr. Christine Chase; Dr. John Davis; Dr. Andy McCullough; Dr. Robert McGovern; Mr. Steve Pritz; Dr. Sandra Russo

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Karen Bradley, Dr. Vivian Correa; Ms. Gann Enholm; Mr. Gary Hartge; Ms. Anne Taylor

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. **Minutes of the April 21, 2005, Graduate Council Meeting:** Approved
2. **Proposal to move a concentration (International Business) to a major under the Master of Arts degree.** Dr. Andy McCollough summarized this proposal as the fifth in a series to move concentrations to majors. There are currently 90 students involved in this curriculum; all requirements of the current degree (MA- major: Business -, concentration: International Business) will remain in place. It is a different type of degree than the MBA, with different entrance requirements, competencies, and expectations. Proposal was approved unanimously, with start date as soon as all other approvals obtained – most likely Fall 2005.
3. **Proposal for a certificate in transnational and global studies.** This item was tabled at the April 21, 2005 Graduate Council meeting. Dr. Sandra Russo presented the revised proposal. As background, the Transnational and Global Studies Center is one of several federally funded centers on campus. This certificate will enable graduate students to identify one of 4 tracks that will help strengthen the student's interdisciplinary studies. The graduate tracks articulate with the undergraduate International Studies major. The certificate curriculum for each student is reviewed by the TNGS Certificate committee for approval, and complements but does not supersede the degree committee's role. The proposal was passed unanimously, and will be implemented as soon as possible, most likely Fall 2005.

4. **Proposal for a new PhD degree with a major in Genetics.** Dr. Henry Baker presented this proposal, which will provide a university wide degree in response to national interest and the many strengths in different aspects of genetics on the UF campus. The PhD in Genetics degree includes a substantial amount of computational work, and has an emphasis on genomics. It is distinctly different from the IPD Genetics concentration which has molecular genetics as its primary focus. The degree will be awarded by the Graduate School through the home college of the major advisor. Because the major advisor is selected at the end of the first year, first year advising will be done by the major professor of the first rotation. For the first year, the student will be supported by the Genetics Institute. Subsequent years' funding will be from the major professor. Several comments were made concerning the interdisciplinary nature of the curriculum and structure, and the council members wanted to be reassured that the student will not struggle in the complexity of that organizational structure. After extended discussion, the proposal was approved unanimously with the caveat from Dr. Gerhardt that the program must clearly identify the core faculty prior to its active implementation. Start date: as soon as all approvals obtained, including approval by the Board of Governors.
5. **Proposal to allow research credits from a graduate degree directly related to the field of plant medicine to apply to the Doctor of Plant Medicine (D.P.M.) degree.** Dr. Robert McGovern presented the proposal to permit research credits from a previously received master's degree in a related field to count towards the 30 transfer credit limit for this non-research doctoral degree. The proposal sought to allow some applied research experiences, which often occurs in the research credit courses, to count. After considerable discussion centering on the true applicability of research credits for this particular non-research degree, and the extent that approving this proposal would be precedent setting policy, the proposal was tabled. The following day, Dr. McGovern notified Dr. Gerhardt that he wished to withdraw the proposal from further consideration.

II. DISCUSSION ITEM

6. **Completion of graduate degrees in a timely manner is an important goal of the Graduate School. Registration during the summer semester helps promote this goal. However, some departments are appointing students on faculty lines during the summer, which precludes summer registration.** Not addressed due to time limitations. Will be considered in a future Graduate Council meeting.

III. INFORMATION ITEM

7. **Re-assessing the graduate faculty appointment criteria process.** Not addressed due to time limitations. Will be considered in a future Graduate Council meeting

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.