

MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
April 17, 2008
1:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Henry Frierson, Chair; Dr. Joseph Delfino, Dr. Bridget Franks, Dr. Abraham Hartzema, Ms. Becky Hayes-Smith (GSC), Dr. Jeffrey Needell, Dr. Panagote Pardalos, Dr. Sharleen Simpson, Dr. Peggy Wallace, Dr. Kim Walsh-Childers

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Jane Brockmann, Dr. Richard Dickinson, Dr. Eileen Fennell, Dr. Betty Smocovitis, Dr. Christopher Stanton

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Raphael Haftka (Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering), Dr. Nam-Ho Kim (Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering), Dr. Christopher Silver (Design, Construction, and Planning), Dr. Peggy Carr (Design, Construction, and Planning) Dr. Roy Graham (Design, Construction, and Planning), Ms. Chandra Mitchell (Office of Admissions), Mr. Steve Pritz (Office of the Registrar)

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Laurence Alexander, Ms. Rimjhim Banerjee, Ms. Gann Enholm, Ms. Anne Taylor (recording), Ms. Stacy Wallace, Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 P.M.

1. **Minutes of the March 20, 2008, Graduate Council Meeting.** Approved unanimously.
2. **Proposal for a Master of Historic Preservation.** Dr. Chris Silver, Dr. Roy Graham, and Dr. Peggy Carr were present for discussion. Dr. Silver explained that the intent of the program is to provide students with an historic preservation program that will be accredited by the National Council of Preservation Professionals. Twelve to fifteen faculty members already teach in the area but under a Master of Science degree that is not viewed by the accrediting body as a professional degree. No new resources or faculty lines will be needed, just more pieces of existing faculty's time. The current certificate programs in historic preservation will not be dropped. Approved unanimously, with a start date of fall 2008 pending all other approvals.
3. **Proposal for a joint Ph.D. agreement between UF and L'Université Paul Sabatier (UPS) in France.** Dr. Nam-Ho Kim and Dr. Raphael Haftka were present for discussion. This proposal is for a jointly conferred degree for an engineering student who will divide his time between these two institutions and receive one diploma. One of the justifications for offering a jointly conferred degree for this student is that UPS offers more rigorous math than UF. Dr. Haftka says it is an extremely good match. A question arose as to why not simply collaborate without the

high cost and high overhead of the joint degree? Dr. Haftka explained that joint advising makes a big difference in this case: the costs associated with awarding the degree are shared by two universities, and the research opportunities for the student are enhanced. It was noted that UF has been involved in granting jointly conferred degrees for at least 5 years. The Faculty Senate approved, in concept, the idea of jointly conferring degrees. So the focus should be on whether the process and the end result are of sufficient quality to warrant the extra costs. As agreed some months ago, Graduate Council plans to consider the next few proposals, on a case-by-case basis, to begin thinking about providing a template for such proposals. The joint program proposed for this student was approved, effectively immediately.

4. **Proposal for a clarification of the role of graduate supervisory committee external members.** The task force consisted of the following Graduate Council members: Dr. Eileen Fennell, Mr. Aaron Rising, Dr. Sharleen Simpson, and Dr. Peggy Wallace. Discussion began with the statement that UF is not adequately training external members in their roles and responsibilities because many external members do not know what they are agreeing to do. A checklist is needed for the external member at the defense. Although the policies and procedures are published, often they are not well known to faculty. It was proposed that a simple checklist be developed for external members, and that Graduate Council send a memo to all Graduate Faculty explaining the role of the external member. Reminders should be sent out once or twice a year. Approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 P.M.