

MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
October 21, 2010
1:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Laurence Alexander, Chair; Dr. Michael Annable, Dr. Virginia Dodd, Dr. Peter Hansen, Dr. Michael Marsiske, Dr. Craig Osenberg, Dr. Joyce Stechmiller, Mr. Ryan Gross (GSC)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Arthur Edison, Dr. Christopher Janiszewski, Dr. Maureen Keller-Wood, Dr. Lisa McElwee-White, Dr. Leslie Odom, Dr. Leonardo Villalón

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. George Blakeslee (Forest Resources and Conservation), Dr. H  l  ne Blondeau (Languages, Literatures and Cultures-French), Dr. Jason Butler (Chemical Engineering), Dr. Florin Curta (History), Dr. Zina Evans (Admissions), Dr. Mark Law (Engineering), Mr. Steve Pritz (Registrar), Dr. Elaine Turner (CALs), Mr. Matthew Vernon (GSC Alternate)

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Karen Bradley (recording), Ms. Rimjhim Banerjee, Ms. Gann Enholm

The meeting was called to order at 1:17 P.M.

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. **Minutes from the September 16, 2010 Graduate Council meeting.** Approved unanimously.
2. **Proposal from the French section of the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures to change the name for its concentrations from French to French and Francophone Studies.** Dr. H  l  ne Blondeau presented the proposal, which is strictly to change the name of the concentrations to better reflect effort, content and globalization. The proposal includes information about undergraduate courses to demonstrate the breadth of Francophone topics, such as varieties of French in North America. There are also upper level relevant courses available. Vote: approved unanimously. Effective date: as soon as possible, pending all other approvals.
3. **Proposal for a Non-Thesis Option for the School of Forest Resources and Conservation M.S. degree.** Dr. George Blakeslee presented the proposal, which requests the addition of a non-thesis option to the existing MS degree. There are a large number of place-bound, mid-career professionals who desire additional skills and knowledge, but are unable or do not want to pursue a research degree. This option differs from the thesis option by requiring more major credits (15 rather than 12), permit up to 3 credits of FOR6905 (rather than a maximum of 10 credits), and

removes the teaching and research seminar requirements. Consistent with Graduate Council policy and the unit's other degrees, a comprehensive final examination will be given. This program will be delivered primarily via distance-learning to accommodate the target population. Therefore, it is not practical to require the teaching/research seminars for these learners. Students in the thesis master's program do relocate to Gainesville to participate in those campus-based experiences. The question was asked about relevance/importance to have an understanding of research methodology. Dr. Blakeslee indicated that every graduate level course includes scientific literature, but there are no current plans to include a distance-delivery research methods course. Vote: approved unanimously. Effective date: Spring 2011, pending any other approvals.

4. **Proposal for a graduate certificate in Medieval Archaeology.** Dr. Florin Curta presented this proposal, which is the result of an initiative for greater cooperation between the Departments of History and Anthropology. This is a unique offering in the US and Canada. Most existing degree programs in medieval archeology are found in Europe. Here at UF, certificates represent a specialization, and some are attached to a graduate degree program/s. This certificate will enhance current offerings in the two departments, and will not compete with current majors in either discipline. While there are no jobs in medieval archaeology per se, there are jobs that require knowledge of material culture, such as a museum curator. Therefore, this certificate also addresses interest from non-degree seeking students. The courses that are listed in the proposal are the minimum available at this time, and it is expected that offerings will increase in number. Council raised concerns about including undergraduate level coursework in a graduate certificate program. This discussion resulted in the request for modification of the proposal. The motion was made to accept the current proposal with the following modifications: 1. Remove all undergraduate course work and replace with appropriate graduate level courses; 2. Correct inconsistencies in the credits allowed for specific courses. Vote: approved unanimously. Effective date: Fall 2011. Additional requirement: the modified proposal will be sent to the Graduate School for inclusion in the official program file. Council does not need to see the revised document.
5. **Proposal for a concentration in Sociology to the graduate degrees in Interdisciplinary Ecology.** Dr. Elaine Turner presented the proposal. Consistent with other concentrations for Interdisciplinary Ecology, the name of the concentration is aligned with the degree program, not the department name. The master's concentration credits will be required from the Environmental and Resource Sociology (ERS) courses, and the PhD concentration will require 6 credits from the ERS group and 6 credits from the other options. Vote: approved unanimously. Effective date: Spring 2011

II. INFORMATION ITEMS

6. **Dual degree in Chemical Engineering that couples UF and the University of Lille.** Dr. Jason Butler from Chemical Engineering spoke about the PIRE grant program, which NSF awarded to UF to foster collaborative research and education in thermal

fluid mechanics with international institutions in France and Japan. The first UF students will be working with French institutions. The plan is to have a PhD conferred separately by both of the institutions after the student has completed all requirements. There was discussion about potential models for collaborative PhD education between the two very different educational systems. Council will be interested in learning more about these models and how other US institutions address these types of international collaborations regarding types of degrees awarded.

- 7. Memorandum of Understanding for a combined 4-1 program in Electrical Engineering with the University of West Florida.** Dr. Mark Law explained that the proposal is a logical next step with UWF's Electrical Engineering program, which was initially created to have identical curriculum with UF's undergraduate program. There will be 9 credits of graduate work applied to the undergraduate degree from UWF. The students will take these credits through the online courses already available for UF Master's degrees. The students will be able to complete their master's degree either in Gainesville, or online. There is not a need to have Council approve this particular program, because the model for a 4/1 program with a non-UF undergraduate institution was approved several years ago between UF and New College of Florida. Dr. Law confirmed that courses to be transferred toward the master's (aka double counted) will be letter graded and earned with a B or better and will comply with existing transfer credit parameters.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 P.M

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 18, 2010