

**MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
September 15, 2011
1:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Chair; Dr. Michael Annable, Dr. Andrea Behrman, Dr. Arthur Edison, Dr. Mary Ann Ferguson, Dr. Carole Kimberlin, Dr. Lisa McElwee-White, Dr. Craig Osenberg, Dr. Joyce Stechmiller, Dr. Leonardo Villalón, Dr. Robert Westin, Ms. Nancy Parish (GSC)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Virginia Dodd, Dr. Peter Hansen

GUESTS PRESENT: Mr. Richard Bryant (Admissions), Mr. Steve Pritz (Registrar), Dr. Bernard Mair (Provost Office)

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Karen Bradley (recording), Dr. Laurence Alexander, Ms. Gann Enholm, Ms. Stacy Wallace

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

Announcements: Dr. Gerhardt welcomed the new and returning Council Members, who introduced themselves. He also reminded everyone that the agenda items are sent electronically.

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. Minutes from the May 19, 2011 Graduate Council meeting. Approved: 10 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain. Dr. Gerhardt indicated that the additional material from the approved items #2 and #3 had been received by the Graduate School.

2. Proposal to sunset the Master of Family , Youth and Community Sciences in Family, Youth and Community Sciences. Dr. Mickie Swisher explained that this degree is cumbersome and under-enrolled. The department is developing a PhD, and therefore streamlining the stable of masters degrees. The 4 currently enrolled students should all graduate in May 2012. This proposal is tied to the proposal for a non-thesis option for the existing MS in Family, Youth and Community Sciences. Approval: unanimous. Effective date: when all official approvals received.

3. Proposal to add a non-thesis option to the existing M.S. in Family, Youth & Community Sciences. Dr. Swisher discussed the need for this option to the existing thesis degree. The program is consistent with 30 credits overall with 15 in the major. Three courses are being dropped from the required curriculum because: the ethics content has been incorporated elsewhere in the curriculum; students can select the public policy course if interested; and the coursework in non-profit organizations is now part of a concentration. Students are very interested in completing a required non-thesis project because of the applied focus. Approval: unanimous. Effective date: Spring 2012.

4. Proposal to establish a policy governing the approval of Graduate Certificates. Dr. Gerhardt explained the background for this agenda item. University approval of all certificate programs is now required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The Provost assigned the responsibility for reviewing and approving graduate-level certificates to the Graduate Council. Dr. Gerhardt reviewed websites of some of UF's peer

institutions and modeled the graduate certificate proposal after what he found. All existing and new certificates will have to be reviewed and approved. However, since 1977, many certificates at the Graduate level have already be approved by the Graduate Council. These will not require further review. By December 2012, any certificate that uses graduate credits must be approved by the University. There will be a physical document and remarks posted on the transcript, whereas currently there are no notations on the transcript. Extensive discussion ensued about the various points in the proposal. Two items in the proposal were discussed: the number of certificates offered by a department, and the number of certificates allowed on the transcript. The proposal was tabled so that further work can be done to revise these and other elements. A revised proposal will be presented at the October Graduate Council meeting. Motion to table: unanimous.

II. DISCUSSION ITEM

Dr. Gerhardt indicated that the following agenda item will be postponed until a policy about Graduate Certificates has been established.

Graduate certificates:

Please review the following submissions for Graduate Certificates. These are included as examples of the types of Graduate Certificates departments are considering. We will not take action until after a policy has been approved on these items.

- a. Certificate in Emerging Infectious Disease Research
- b. Certificate in Public Health
- c. Critical Infrastructure Protection
- d. Veterinary Forensic Sciences
- e. Disaster Mental Health Counseling

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 20, 2011