

**MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL**

March 21, 2013

1:00 P.M.

264 GRINTER HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Chair; Dr. Michael Annable, Dr. Sid Dobrin, Dr. Arthur Edison, Dr. Mary Ann Ferguson, Dr. Christopher Janelle, Dr. Carole Kimberlin, Dr. Ellen Martin, Dr. Heather McAuslane, Dr. Joyce Stechmiller

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Amir Erez, Dr. Lisa McElwee-White, Dr. Panagote Pardalos, Ms. Rhonda Williams (GSC)

GUESTS PRESENT: Ms. Aigi Adesogan (Registrar), Mr. Rick Bryant (Admissions), Dr. Joe Fantone (Medicine), Dr. Paul Gulig (Medicine), Dr. Jill Herndon (Medicine), Mr. Dan Hodges, (Registrar), Dr. Spiro Kiouisis (Journalism), Mr. Scott Sager (Agricultural and Life Sciences), Dr. Betsy Shenkman (Medicine)

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Karen Bradley (recording), Dr. Laurence Alexander, Dr. Emilia Hodge,

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 P.M.

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. **Minutes from the February 21, 2013 Graduate Council ballot.** Motion: approved unanimously.
2. **Proposal from the College of Medicine for a Health Outcomes and Policy concentration within the PhD in Medical Sciences degree.** Dr. Betsy Shenkman noted that the proposal builds on an approved master's degree; it links to all the diverse measures of clinical outcomes for individual patients as well as populations. The PhD will have much more emphasis on methodological research skills. The concentration specifically incorporates opportunities to make connections and linkages. Dr. Paul Gulig noted that NIH recently requested proposals for PhD programs that span the spectrum of medical sciences. Here at UF, that would include resources such as the Clinical and Translational Science Institute, Innovation Hub, etc, and ultimately extend to the community. Students in other disciplines could receive a certificate or minor, but not a secondary concentration. Several new curricular items are moving through that system for approval. Motion: Approve unanimously. Effective date: Fall 2013.

3. **Proposal from the College of Journalism for a Social Media Professional certificate.** Dr. Spiro Kiouis noted that this certificate is part of the social media specialization in the Master of Arts in Mass Communication degree. Two existing courses and two proposed courses that are in the Graduate Curriculum approval process will create this stand-alone certificate. Motion: approved unanimously. Effective date: Summer 2013.
4. **Proposal from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences for an Environmental Education and Communication certificate.** Mr. Scott Sager indicated that this is the last of the existing certificate programs to request formal Graduate Council approval. Participants can have a bachelor's degree in any major, but need to have prerequisites for certain courses. The students will be monitored to make sure they have a cohesive program. In response to a question about why the courses used the word "environmental" rather than "ecological", Mr. Sager commented that the current professional workplace considers "environmental" to be more broadly based and therefore includes the implications of managing the ecology/biology/scientific elements. Motion: approved: 8, no: 0; abstain: 1. Effective date: Summer 2013.
5. **Selection of candidates to include on the ballot for election to the Graduate Council, 2013-2016.** Dr. Gerhardt thanked the Nominating Committee for submitting nominees for the 2 available slots. All 5 names were approved, and will be placed on the ballot. The names of people who were not elected are passed to the Provost as part of his consideration for appointing the 2 other representatives.
6. **Create a sub-committee to discuss specific criteria for GRE exceptions per November 2012 Graduate Council minutes.** Dr. Gerhardt explained that while the GRE has been the long-established standardized test for admission to Graduate School, over the years the Graduate Council has approved substitutes such as the GMAT/Miller's Analogies/ MCAT/ Fundamentals of Engineering for specific academic programs. The GRE is waived for all applicants who have already earned a master's/doctoral/professional degree from a US regionally accredited program. After discussion of several possible ways to approach the issue, Council recommended that that Graduate School staff gather information on what peer institutions do, and bring recommendations to Council in the Fall.

II. INFORMATION ITEMS

None.

The meeting adjourned at 1:46 pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 18, 2013