

Graduate Council
March 9, 2009
226 University Hall
Meeting Minutes

Graduate Council Members Present:

Ana Azevedo, Jim Bartholomew, Ginny Bumgardner, Teresa Early, Mike Lairmore, Rattan Lal, Walter Lempert, Jason Marion, Anne McCoy, Ruth Peterson, Constantine Psimopoulos, Jim Phelan, Ingrid Werner

Graduate School Staff Present: Patrick Osmer, Ann Salimbene, Elliot Slotnick, Kathleen Wallace, Tim Watson, Susan Reeser (recorder)

Approval of Minutes

- The minutes from the January 12, 2009, Graduate Council meeting were approved as submitted with the removal of Anne McCoy's name from the attendance roster.

A. Announcements –Dean Pat Osmer

- The graduate programs have been notified about the outcome of the Graduate School's Enrichment and University Fellowship awards competition.
- Responses have been received from college deans with updates on their doctoral program reviews for Dean Osmer's presentation to the Board of Trustees on April 2.
- The task forces on life sciences and environmental sciences are proceeding well and the data collection is mostly completed. The task forces are now beginning to evaluate their findings and make recommendations on next steps.

B. For review

1) Report of the subcommittee on electronic submission of the Master's theses

Council members Jim Phelan, Ruth Peterson, and Walter Lempert comprised a subcommittee to investigate if public dissemination of the electronically submitted MFA theses will hamper students' efforts to later publish their creative works. The subcommittee determined that while electronic submission was acceptable, complete access to theses was not. They are also hoping to propose a system that will allow the Graduate School to implement a system of uniform petition procedures that will be appropriate for various disciplines. Tim Watson, Graduate School director for Graduation Services, explained the Graduate School's current process and forms that students' use to petition to delay dissemination of Ohio State dissertations and theses.

Questions were voiced about copyright issues, what happens after the five year delay, and should access be deferred indefinitely. Council members hoped to find a way to streamline the delay process and include faculty concurrence. It was noted that all master's and doctoral students meet together with their advisors when they present their final oral defense. Associate Dean Slotnick suggested that the defense forms be revised to include the petition to delay dissemination. The Graduate School will work on this revision.

- **Next steps are for members of the Graduate School to meet with the University Library staff to determine if the archival process for dissertations and theses is working and to report back to Council at the next meeting.**

2) Change in Ph.D. requirement from 135 credit hours to 120

The Graduate School is proposing to change the number of credit hours for the Ph.D. degree from 135 to 120. The change is being instituted to assist student who fall short of meeting the 135 hour Ph.D. requirement due to the three-credit, post-candidacy full-time enrollment policy. Council members were urged to send Dean Osmer any examples of cases where this change could negatively affect graduate students. A final review of the policy will take place at the next Council meeting.

C. Graduate Council Curriculum Committee Reports and Actions

– Theresa Early, Liaison

- Proposal from the Department of Statistics, Psychology, and Marketing to create a Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Quantitative Methods in Consumer Behavior institute.
— **The proposal was approved.**

D. For introductory discussion

1) Setting goals for time to degree and Ph.D. degree completion

This issue was not discussed and will be deferred to the next meeting.

2) Doctoral resident requirement

Currently the *Graduate School Handbook* rules on doctoral residency requirement states that a minimum of 45 graduate credit hours must be completed at Ohio State, a minimum of three out of four consecutive quarters with an enrollment of at least 10 graduate credit hours per quarter, and a minimum of six graduate credit hours over a period of a least two quarter must be completed after admission to candidacy. Due to the recent changes to the three credit hour post-candidacy full-time registration, the Graduate School is requesting that the rule for the doctoral residency requirement be changed to a minimum of three out of four consecutive quarters and with an enrollment of at least nine graduate credit hours (a change from 10 credit hours) per quarter must be completed prior to attaining candidacy at Ohio State. Reducing the credit hours from 10 to 9 will bring the credit hour requirement in line with the full-time requirements for graduate associates (9 hours). There was some discussion about whether the pre-candidacy stipulation conflicts with the post-masters' credit requirement. The Graduate School will consider this in its revision. The proposal will be revised and presented again at the next meeting.

E. Other topics of discussion expressed by Council members were:

1) Schedule for spring quarter meetings

It was determined that Monday afternoons from 3:30-5 p.m. seem to work well for most everyone and will be continued. The meeting dates for spring quarter will be April 20, May 18, and June 8.

2) Other

A Graduate Council member reported that the efforts being undertaken by the task forces on life sciences and environmental sciences may be stifling recruitment efforts to some of the interdisciplinary programs because of the perceived possibility that some programs may be dissolved or combined with other programs. Dean Osmer was urged to communicate the task force timeline and conclusions as soon as possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.