

Graduate Council
June 1, 2009
226 University Hall
Meeting Minutes

Graduate Council Members Present:

Ana Azevedo, Jim Bartholomew, Teresa Early, Michael Lairmore, Walter Lempert, Jason Marion, Anne McCoy, Ruth Peterson, James Phelan, Harald Vaessin, Ingrid Werner

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

A. Approval of Minutes

- The minutes from the April 20, 2009, Graduate Council meeting were approved as submitted.

B. Announcements – Dean Pat Osmer

- The Graduate School hosted the annual CIC Graduate Deans meeting at Ohio State on May 21-22, 2009, showcasing the campus facilities and graduate student performers in the School of Music.
- Reported that the NRC methodology report is planned to be released later this month.
- The task forces on life sciences and environmental sciences are beginning to work on the final reports.

C. Graduate Council Curriculum Committee Reports and Actions

– Theresa Early, Liaison

1. Proposal to update curriculum to the graduate minor in Environment and Natural Resources Graduate Program (ENRGP)
2. Proposal from the College of Education and Human Ecology to offer 4th/5th grade endorsements as an add-on to the PreK-3 License
3. Proposal to include courses as curriculum options for the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Global Health
4. Proposal to discontinue graduate program in Comprehensive Vocational Education (CVE)
5. Proposal to create a new “Clinical Investigation” Graduate Specialization in the School of Public Health
6. Request for change in minimum credit hour requirement for Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree (DNP)
7. Proposal for the creations of a Graduate Specialization in Museum Education and Administration in the Art Education program
 - **Professor Early explained each of the proposals, in the order presented above, and indicated that they had been vetted and approved by the Curriculum Committee. The proposals were approved by Graduate Council and will be forwarded to the Council on Academic Affairs for final processing.**

D. Business

1. Policy changes with switch from quarters to semesters
 - Council members discussed the pros and cons about the change from quarters to semesters and the proposed academic semester calendars for Ohio State. They

compared the projected calendar start and ending dates with the semester calendar configurations at other peer institutions. They identified several policy and financial concerns that may be experienced with the transition. Uncertainty was expressed about how the May mini-semester will work and how the tuition will be structured.

Other concern expressed were: about how credit hours will be calculated, the need to reestablish credit hour requirements for the master's and doctoral degrees, the possibility that Graduate Associate teaching responsibilities may increase and that the fourth quarter fee authorizations will no longer be available, how accreditation requirements be handled, and what the process will be for reviewing the new and affected policies.

Dean Osmer suggested that a review should be undertaken of other institutions that recently made a similar switch to learn about their process and experiences. He asked Council members to send him their concerns about policies and rules that will be affected by the change to semesters so that the Graduate School can assist in addressing them.

2. Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD) downloads

- Dean Osmer shared with Council a chart prepared by University Library's Assistant Director, Jim Bracken, showing the number of Ohio State Electronic Theses and Dissertations downloaded during 2008. The members' expressed surprise at the enormity of the more than 798,983 downloads that occurred in just one year. Concern was expressed that with electronic circulations being approximately 5 times greater than paper copies that there may be more opportunities for plagiarism or that international libraries may be illicitly stocking their libraries.

3. Rotation of Council members

- The group reviewed a proposed term roster for Graduate Council members identifying four members, (Rattan Lal, Mike Lairmore, Walter Lempert, and Anne McCoy) who will rotate off Council at the end of the quarter. Dean Osmer asked Council members to send him the names of any potential faculty candidates to serve during the next year.

E. Other

- Anne McCoy brought to Council's attention a suggestion from the Collegium Advisor Committee that Ohio State does not do well in securing NSF fellowships for its graduate students. It was suggested that graduate programs more actively encourage eligible first and second year graduate students to apply for NSF fellowships and perhaps consider requiring eligible students who hold fellowships in their first year to apply.
- Dean Osmer asked members to send him feedback on how Council worked this past year. He indicated there may be issues that will need attention by Council during the summer but they most likely can be handled electronically.
- Dean Osmer expressed his thanks to all members for their valuable service on the Graduate Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.