

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING
February 27, 2001
Pending Approval

Meeting convened: 3:05 p.m.

Members Present: Peter Aronhime, Martha Bickford, Beth Boehm, Barbara Clark, Melanie Hurst, Bruce Kemelgor, Carolyn Klinge, Lori Kruckenberg, Phyllis Metcalf-Turner, Peter Meyer, George Pack, Ron Sahoo, Joseph Steffen, Arthur Van Stewart, Richard Tewksbury, Deborah Voltz.

Ex-Officio: Ronald Atlas, Joanne Rowe, Richard Stremel.

Members Absent: Faye Austin, William Pierce, Mary Ann Stenger, Kevin Walsh.

Dean Atlas presided throughout the meeting.

1. MOTION: That the minutes of January 23, 2001 be approved . Motion made by Bruce Kemelgor and seconded by Richard Tewksbury.
PASSED.
2. Curriculum Committee Report.
 - A. Changes in the M.A. in Humanities. Following the suspension of the M.A. in Linguistics, this proposal incorporates Linguistics curriculum into the M.A in Humanities.
MOTION: Committee recommends approval.
Unanimously APPROVED.
 - B. Accelerated B.A/M.A. in Humanities. This is an information item only since the suggested changes are in the undergraduate curriculum only, the graduate curriculum is unchanged.
 - C. Requested minor changes to the Ph.D. in Civil Engineering. This proposal eliminates the specific requirement for 6 hours of mathematics and instead allows the mentor and advisory committee to evaluate the student's need for mathematics in relation to research topic. The proposal adds flexibility to the degree program.
MOTION: Committee recommends approval.
Unanimously APPROVED.
3. Discussion of Graduate Faculty Status and Membership Committee Report.
Dean Atlas led the Graduate Council in a discussion of Graduate Faculty status in an effort to provide guidance to the Membership Committee. Dean Atlas indicated that the SACS requirement for graduate courses taught only by graduate faculty and the need to increase the quality of the graduate faculty as reasons for the changing the Graduate School Bylaws on Graduate Faculty membership. The Council discussed the meaning of being a member of the Graduate Faculty and stipulated that the criteria for tenure within a unit should not be confused with criteria for Graduate

Faculty status. Several criteria were suggested as was the use of a scorecard approach so that all faculty will know the criteria and exactly what is expected to be Regular and Senior Member of the Graduate Faculty. It was determined that such a scorecard would be difficult to create that could apply to all units of the University. It is the diversity of the units that helps strengthen the Graduate School. Council recommended that the criteria for Senior Graduate Faculty status in the new Bylaws be interpreted as the same as criteria for Graduate Faculty membership in the old Bylaws. The existing criteria were considered stringent enough for such status. Discussion continued on criteria and guidelines and the Membership Committee agreed to draft a "Points to Consider" document that could be sent to the deans to help guide the nomination letters to ensure that the Committee and the Council had the necessary information for assessing nominees. The Membership Committee and Council as a committee of the whole reviewed the credentials of some faculty currently being considered for membership.

MOTION: The following individuals be approved for Graduate Faculty membership:

Dr. Shirish Barve – Department of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology/
Hepatology

Dr. Hokey Min – Logistics and Distribution Institute, College of Business and Public
Administration

Dr. Thomas Mitchell – Department of Microbiology and Immunology

PASSED.

MOTION: That the following individual be given a term appointment by the Dean with limitations until the new Bylaws are approved, at which time this member will be re-evaluated by the committee. The following individual was recommended to the Graduate Dean for term appointment to the Graduate Faculty:

Dr. Clara Leuthart – Department of Geography and Geosciences

PASSED.

4. Other Business.

Dean Atlas reminded Council of the concerns expressed by ETS on the realization that the GRE and TOEFL Exams administered in China have been compromised. It was suggested that graduate program directors consider placing phone calls to potential candidates to confirm communication skills.

The Dean announced that the Graduate School has made some offers of University Fellowships and expects to make more. Programs are encouraged to put their top candidates forward for consideration.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.