

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING
October 28, 2003
Pending Approval

Meeting convened: 3:02 p.m.

Members present: Susan Griffin, Vicki Hines-Martin, Larry Hunt, Jim Jumblatt, Bruce Kemelgor, Ann Larson, Phyllis Metcalf-Turner, Seow-Chin Ong, Ron Sahoo, Rammohan Ragade, K. Grant Taylor, James Wittliff, and William Wead.

Ex-Officio: Ronald Atlas, Richard Stremel.

Members Absent: John Firriolo, Carlton Hornung, Ruth Huber, Waldemar Karwowski, Carolyn Klinge, Henry Luka, Dismas Masolo, Suzanne Meeks, Peter Meyer, and Joseph Steffen.

Guests: Pam Feldhoff.

Dean Atlas called the meeting to order at 3:04pm.

1. MOTION: That the minutes of September 23, 2003 be approved. Motion made by Bruce Kemelgor and seconded by Jim Jumblatt.
PASSED.
2. Report of the Curriculum Committee.
 - Changes in M.S. and Ph.D. Programs in Microbiology & Immunology
The Department of Microbiology & Immunology requests changes in the degree programs that effectively will allow them to advance students to candidacy after 18 months in a core curriculum. This change is being driven by the reduction in Integrated Program in Biomedical Sciences (IPIBS) Fellowship support to 18 months. The changes include a description of the modified program of study, an alteration of the published deadline dates that move students through the program, and a reduction of redundant course topics. Professor Wittliffe expressed concern for student support, especially if IPIBS reduces support to one year as has been discussed. Professor Griffin asked if student learning was being compromised. Medical School Council members expressed the opinion that yes, learning was being compromised.
MOTION: To approve the program changes, motion from Committee.
PASSED, with one abstention.
 - Track Changes in Master of Music Degree
The School of Music proposes eliminating one under utilized track in its M.M. program and reformulating the remaining two tracks into three. The

new tracks would be: Music History and Literature, Music Theory, and Music Composition.

MOTION: To approve the program changes, motion from Committee.
PASSED.

- Change in Degree Requirements for Ph.D. in Epidemiology – Clinical Investigation Sciences
The Epidemiology program in the School of Public Health & Information Sciences proposes replacing a core course in the curriculum (HADM 620) that is no longer offered by the College of Business & Public Administration. The course will be replaced by a PHIS course (PHMS 615). Both courses are three credit hours and deal with introductory material on Health Care Systems.
MOTION: To approve the program change, motion from Committee.
PASSED.

3. Report on Summer Undergraduate Research

Dr. Pamela Feldhoff, Assistant VP for Research and Director of the SROP program, presented a summary of the summer research experiences available to undergraduates. The Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP), developed by the Graduate School and Graduate Council and funded by the President's Office and the Provost, is one of six programs she coordinates. She described the schedule for the summer (weekly meetings to poster sessions), the schools represented (from Berea to Wash. U.), and participating departments (from Anthropology to Physiology). Dr. Feldhoff indicated that students can go to the SROP website and begin the process of signing up for summer research. The deadline for next year's applications is March 1, 2004 and the 10 week experience begins June 1, 2004. SROP as well as the other undergraduate research programs were developed as recruitment tools. The Graduate School is in the process of determining the effectiveness of this recruitment tool.

4. Report of Membership Committee

The following individuals were reviewed by the Membership Committee and are recommended as members of the **Senior Graduate Faculty**:

- Aaron Jaffe, Ph.D., *Department of English*, College of Arts and Sciences.
- Richard R.J. Lewine, Ph.D., *Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences*, College of Arts and Sciences.
- Rudolph S. Parrish, Ph.D., *Department of Biostatistics & Bioinformatics*, School of Public Health and Information Sciences.
- Celeste Shawler, Ph.D., School of Nursing.
- Frederic L. Wightman, Ph.D., *Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences*, College of Arts and Sciences.

The following individuals were reviewed by the Membership Committee and are recommended as members of the **Graduate Faculty**:

- Scott C. Levi, Ph.D., *Department of History*, College of Arts and Sciences.
- Diane M. Von Ah. Ph.D., School of Nursing.
- Pavel Zahorik, Ph.D., *Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences*, College of Arts and Sciences.

MOTION: The Membership Committee moved that the above named individual be elected to Graduate Faculty status.

PASSED.

5. Report of the Nominations Committee.
 - Program Review Committee
Dr. William Wead from the Medical School and Dr. Joseph Steffen from A&S have agreed to serve on the PRC. They were elected by acclamation.
 - Decanal Review Committee
Dr. Bruce Kemelgor, CBPA, volunteered to serve as Council's representative to the DRC and was elected by acclamation.
6. Discussion of Duration of University Fellow Support
Dean Atlas initiated a discussion concerning issues related to University Fellows. The Fellowship program is designed to bring the best and brightest students to our graduate programs. They are significant awards of stipend, tuition, and health insurance for a minimum of 4 years of study. The Graduate School funds the awards for two years (18 months at HSC IPIBS) with the proviso, agreed to by the programs at the time of nomination, that the stipend will not be reduced in the remaining two years of support. It has become clear that several programs have lowered the Fellowship support to that of a GTA in the program because they do not have external resources to fully fund the stipend.
Dean Atlas asked for Council's opinion on whether or not it was acceptable to inform a student at the time of offer that the stipend would be lowered after two years of support.
Dean Atlas retired from the meeting to catch a plane and Associate Dean Stremel continued the discussion.
Most Council members felt that such an admission in the offer letter would hurt recruitment. One suggestion was to lower the initial Fellowship stipend to that of a GTA so that the student would not receive a reduction in stipend but still have a scholarship for the first two years. This would create even more diversity in stipend levels than currently exists and would likely cause problems with recruitment. The discussion will continue at future meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.