

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING
April 26, 2005

Meeting convened at 3:05 p.m. – Dean Atlas presiding.

Members present: Namok Choi, Susan Griffin, Vicki Hines-Martin, Ruth Huber, Larry Hunt, Waldemar Karwowski, Carolyn Klinge, Ann Larson, Dismas Masolo, Seow-Chin Ong, George Pack, Ron Sahoo, S. Srinivasan, Joseph Steffen, Nancy Theriot.

Ex officio: Ronald Atlas, Michael Cuyjet

Members Absent: David Clouthier, Evelyne Gozal, Carlton Hornung, Kathleen Klueber, Elangovan Krishnan, Rammohan Ragade, James Whittliff.

Guests: Cynthia McCurren (Nursing), Raphael C. Njoku (Graduate Student Council)

1. Approval of the Minutes from the March 29, 2005 meeting.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the March meeting as submitted.

Moved by Joseph Steffen; seconded by Carolyn Kling.

PASSED.

2. Report of the Curriculum Committee.

Dean Atlas introduced Cynthia McCurren who spoke in favor of the new revisions in several courses in the M.S.N. program. The course changes are intended to consolidate the curriculum across the various tracks.

MOTION: From the Committee to approve the recommended changes in the M.S.N. curriculum.

PASSED.

3. Report of the Membership Committee.

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

- Catherine Fosl, Ph.D., Department of Communication and Women's & Gender Studies, College of Arts and Sciences.
- Gerald B. Hammond, Ph.D., Department of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences.
- Bingtuan Li, Ph.D., Department of Mathematics, College of Arts and Sciences.
- Yongzhi Xu, Ph.D., Department of Mathematics, College of Arts and Sciences.

MOTION: From the Committee to approve for Senior Member of the Graduate Faculty.

PASSED.

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

- Ryan Gill, Ph.D., Department of Mathematics, College of Arts and Sciences.
- Trimbak Shastri, Ph.D., Department of Accountancy, College of Business and Public Administration.
- Heather A. Rypkema, Ph.D., Department of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences.

MOTION: From the Committee to approve for Member of the Graduate Faculty.

MOTION: To divide the question and vote on each recommendation individually.

Moved by Susan Griffin; seconded by Waldemar Karwowski.

PASSED, one abstention.

MOTION: To approve Ryan Gill for Member of the Graduate Faculty.

PASSED, one abstention.

MOTION: To approve Trimbak Shastri for Member of the Graduate Faculty.

PASSED.

MOTION: To approve Heather Rypkema for Member of the Graduate Faculty.

PASSED.

MOTION: To approve Heather Rypkema for Senior Member of the Graduate Faculty.

Moved by George Pack; seconded by Nancy Theriot.

FAILED.

4. Report on Graduate Council Reapportionment and Elections.

Dean Atlas explained the effect of including ad hoc graduate faculty when counting the numbers of graduate faculty in units for Council reapportionment; such that if they were counted, Medicine and Speed would each lose one seat and Education and Kent would gain one seat, compared to the reapportionment with only tenure and tenure-track faculty.

Susan Griffin asked if the Council could have a member who was the representative of ad hoc graduate faculty. Dean Atlas responded that it would take a bylaw change to create such a role.

MOTION: That ad hoc faculty NOT be counted for Council reapportionment.

Moved by Larry Hunt; seconded by George Pack.

PASSED.

Waldemar Karwowski asked that the name of the unit be changed in the related report from Speed Scientific School to Speed School of Engineering.

Joseph Steffen indicated that his term was expiring and he is not eligible to be re-elected.

5. Discussion of Maximum Course Loads and Overloads.

Dean Atlas explained that, under the current procedure, individual students seeking more than the allowable number or semester hours must apply individually to the Graduate School and, if approved, those applications are forwarded to the Registrar. A number of Kent students have been seeking approval to take 16 hours each semester to complete their program on time. The

Registrar has indicated that these students cannot be considered as a group unless an exception is made for all Kent students.

No motion was made; but the Council reached a consensus to recommend that the Dean ask the Registrar to allow all Kent students to enroll for up to 16 hours in a semester.

Dean Atlas invited the Council to revisit the general policy about maximum hours for all graduate students.

6. Report on the 2005-06 Budget and Graduate Student Support.

Dean Atlas reported that \$1 million is available in 2005-06 for increases in doctoral stipends and \$300,000 for upgrades to stipends. The plan to use these funds calls for (1) increasing stipends for Ph.D. students in Biology, Chemistry, and Psychology to \$20,000/year over 12 months; (2) all Ph.D.s except those in the School of Medicine will receive a \$1000 increase. Any funds left over after these allocations are made will be assigned in places to enhance excellence in Ph.D. programs. There will be no increases in Master's degree stipends.

For 2006-07, the plan is to (1) make all other stipends except in the School of Medicine 12 months; (2) provide 23 months of fellowship funding in the School of Medicine (instead of the current 17 months); and increase all \$20,000 Ph.D. stipends to \$22,000.

Susan Griffin commented that the support for Biology, Chemistry and Psychology cannot be because they are "grant rich" and express the need to support doctoral education across the board.

7. Announcements.

A team of consultants will be on campus May 10 and 11 to assess the Graduate School. The Council is to meet with the consultants at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10, 2005.

Meeting adjourned 4:27 p.m.