

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING
March 28, 2006

Meeting continuation from March 21, 2006 reconvened at 3:04 p.m. – Susan Griffin Chairing.

Members present: Annette Allen, Namok Choi, Susan Griffin, Vicki Hines-Martin, Carlton Hornung, Ruth Huber, Larry Hunt, Ann Larson, Seow-Chin Ong, George Pack, Rammohan Ragade, David Scott, Joseph Steffen, Nancy Theriot and James Wittliff.

Ex officio: Richard Stremel.

Members Absent: Timothy Brauch, Evelyne Gozal, Mahesh Gupta, Waldemar Karwowski, Carolyn Klinge, Kathleen Klueber, and Ron Sahoo.

Guests: None.

1. Continuation of Discussion of Future Vision of the Graduate School.
Council continued the discussion of Graduate Faculty and Mentoring from the previous meeting. Council asked the question if it thought there should even be a Graduate School at UofL. The consensus of the group was yes. It was agreed that directors of theses and dissertations be limited to those faculty with a terminal degree and a tenure-track appointment in a department or university with a graduate program. Council approved the deletion of language that separated teaching faculty from graduate faculty. Council recommended that: The Graduate School shall define standards for membership on Thesis and Dissertation Committees. Council approved the deletion of a quote in this section which described best practices concerning who determines degree requirements and thesis and dissertation committee membership. Council approved renaming this entire section, “Teaching and Mentoring of Graduate Students”.

Council addressed the section on Admissions and Recruitment. Council supported a centralized admissions process with authority to issue letters of admission and recommended that the admissions office expand recruitment activities. Council revised the section on admission letters to reflect that the official letter of admission would be sent simultaneously electronically and by mail to both the applicant and the graduate program director.

Curricula and Programs. Council approved the decentralization of approval for existing curricula and new programs. To ensure consistency with the CPE, Council approved adding the provision that the “Provost shall articulate standards for credit hour/contact hour relationships.” Council also agreed that Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs should be in the Graduate School and not in units, but that such programs should not be referred to as “the wave of the

future” or “cutting-edge”. Thus, these sentences and phrases in the document were struck or altered to reflect “innovative” programs.

Council agreed that there should be a centralized admissions process with authority to issue letters of admission and that recruitment activities be expanded.

The meeting was suspended to reconvene the following Tuesday (April 4, 2006) (pending adequate attendance) at 3:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned 4:50 p.m.