

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING
September 26, 2006

Meeting convened at 3:05 p.m. – Associate Dean Richard Stremel presiding.

Members present: Timothy Brauch, Namok Choi, Susan Griffin, Mahesh Gupta, Ruth Huber, Larry Hunt, Ann Larson, Seow-Chin Ong, George Pack, Rammohan Ragade, Joseph Steffen, and Nancy Theriot.

Ex officio: Ronald Atlas, Michael Cuyjet, Paul DeMarco, and Richard Stremel.

Members Absent: Annette Allen, Evelyne Gozal, Vicki Hines-Martin, Carlton Hornung, Waldemar Karwowski, Carolyn Klinge, Kathleen Klueber, Ron Sahoo, David Scott, and James Wittliff.

Guests: Linda Shapiro (Provost's Office), Paul Winter (CEHD), Robert Ronau (CEHD), John Keedy (CEHD), Margaret Pentecost (CEHD), Robert Buchanan (A&S), and Al Futrell (A&S).

While Dean Atlas was present at the meeting, he did not officially participate. He was respectfully mourning the death of his Mother.

1. Approval of the Minutes from the August 22, 2006 meeting.
MOTION: To approve the minutes of the meeting with the correction that the word "Qualitative" in the section on the Ph.D. in Social Work was misspelled..
Moved by George Pack; seconded by Larry Hunt.
PASSED.
2. Election to fill Council Vacancy from the School of Nursing.
Dr. Karen Robinson in the School of Nursing was nominated by Interim Dean McCurren to complete the term of Dr. Vicki Hines-Martin as the representative to Graduate Council.
MOTION: To elect Dr. Robinson as a member of Graduate Council. Moved by Susan Griffin and seconded by Nancy Theriot.
PASSED.
3. Report of the Curriculum Committee.
 - Proposal for the Establishment of a M.A. in Communication.
Professor Al Futrell, the Chair of the Department of Communication was present to provide an overview of the proposal and answer questions. The proposed M.A. is a 37-hour program with 22 hours in core courses. The program has a thesis and non-thesis option, with the non-thesis option requiring a practicum of at least three credit hours and a Comprehensive Exam. The Dean of A&S has provided library and faculty resources to

support the degree program. The program meets all the admission and program requirements of the Graduate School.

MOTION: To approve the M.A. Degree Program in Communication comes from the Committee.

PASSED.

- Proposed Reinstatement of the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Studies. Associate Dean Stremel asked for a motion to move the agenda item from the Table.

MOTION: the motion to remove the item from the Table was made by Susan Griffin and seconded by Ann Larson.

PASSED.

Associate Dean Stremel presented the proposal and Dean Atlas responded to questions and provided background. The proposal allows for two approaches to the development of a degree program; one is initiated by a student and the other is initiated by a group of faculty. Both approaches permit the creation of a degree program from multiple disciplines – perhaps creating new disciplines. The issue of the quality of the 1979 incarnation of the program was raised, but it was pointed out that the current proposal places responsibility for quality squarely on the backs of the faculty involved, the Graduate Council (in its approval process), and the Assistant Graduate Dean for Interdisciplinary Studies (administrative oversight). Some on Council expressed concern for the resources that would flow to these Interdisciplinary Study students, but Dean Atlas indicated that new lines of student support are not being removed from existing lines of support and without support for this program, it will be difficult to recruit students.

MOTION: To approve the Reinstatement of the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Studies comes from the Committee.

PASSED, with two negative votes.

4. Report of the Membership Committee.

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

- John Gibson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Composition, School of Music.
- John R. Jones Jr., M.M., Associate Professor of Tuba-Euphonium, School of Music.
- J. Patrick Rafferty, B.M., Associate Professor of Violin, School of Music.
- Dallas Tidwell, M.M., Associate Professor of Clarinet, School of Music.
- Daniel Weeks, M.M., Assistant Professor of Voice, School of Music.
- Paul A. York, M.A., Associate Professor of Cello, School of Music.
- Karen C. Britt, Ph.D., Assistant professor of Fine Arts, *Department of Fine Arts*, College of Arts and Sciences.

- Ryan Gill, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Mathematics, *Department of Mathematics*, College of Arts and Sciences.
- David Swanson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Mathematics, *Department of Mathematics*, College of Arts and Sciences.

MOTION: To approve the nominations comes from Committee.
PASSED.

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

- Susan J. Harkema, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Neurological Surgery, *Department of Neurological Surgery*, School of Medicine.
- Ermalynn M. Kiehl, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Nursing, School of Nursing.

MOTION: To approve the nominations comes from Committee.
PASSED.

5. Review/Revision of the Policy on Residency Requirements.

The current Graduate School Policy on Residency for doctoral students requires that "...at least two years of study must be spent at the University of Louisville and at least one must be spent in full-time residency. To be considered in full-time residency for one year, a student must be registered for 9 or more hours in each of two consecutive semesters." This Policy creates problems for students who work full-time and take classes on more of a part-time basis. This is particularly a conflict for CEHD students. CEHD has asked that the Policy be revised. Council discussed the underlying reasons for a residency requirement and agreed with the philosophy that is important for students to participate in the intellectual life and research atmosphere of the University.

MOTION: A motion to revise the residency requirement for doctoral students was made to allow meeting the residency requirement with a minimum of 18 credit hours completed in a 12 month period. The motion was made by Susan Griffin and seconded by George Pack.

PASSED

6. Graduate School Reorganization Plan.

Graduate Council received copies of the Provost's draft Reorganization Plan prior to the meeting. Council expressed no interest in responding to the draft as a representative body, but encouraged individuals to send the Provost their thoughts. Joe Steffen expressed concern about "unintended consequences" of the section on Graduate Student Mentoring. This section states that "...the individual being appointed (as a mentor) is committed to working with the graduate student year round throughout degree completion." Can a faculty member be compelled to mentor a student when the faculty is not under contract with the University? Others raised the issue of University and faculty liability when a student is working in a lab and is unsupervised by a faculty mentor. If the mentor is on a

ten-month contract and takes the summer off, does that mean the graduate student cannot work towards degree completion? Concern was also expressed that interdisciplinary programs would increase the work load of the Faculty Senate.

7. Other Business
None.

Meeting adjourned 4:51 p.m.