

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING
February 27, 2007

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

Members present: Timothy Brauch, David Dubofsky, Carlton Hornung, Ruth Huber, Carolyn Klinge, Seow-Chin Ong, George Pack, Rammohan Ragade, and Joseph Steffen.

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

Members Absent: Annette Allen, Namok Choi, Evelyne Gozal, Susan Griffin, Larry Hunt, Waldemar Karwowski, Ann Larson, Steven Myers, Karen Robinson, Ron Sahoo, David Scott, Nancy Theriot, and James Wittliff.

Guests: Connie Shumake (Provost's Office), Pete Walton (SPHIS), Bill Pierce (Provost's Office), Robert Kimball (A&S), and David Doukas (SOM).

1. Approval of the Minutes from the December 19, 2006 meeting.
MOTION: To approve the minutes of the meeting. Motion made by Ruth Huber and seconded by David Dubofsky.
PASSED.
2. Report of the Curriculum Committee.
 - Proposal for Changes to the Curriculum of the Ph.D. in Biostatistics: Decision Sciences.
Pete Walton, Associate Dean of SPHIS, summarized the proposed changes. The program wishes to reduce the number of required credit hours of "Dissertation Research" (PHDA 777) from 24 to 9. This would also decrease the total number of required credit hours from 48 to 33. Carlton Hornung objected to the reduction in research hours, but Dean Atlas indicated that there was no Graduate School minimum requirement for dissertation research hours in a degree program. Dr. Walton noted that all students in the program are required to have a Masters degree in an appropriate discipline. The proposal was approved by the unit.
MOTION: to approve the curricular change in the Ph.D. in Biostatistics: Decision Science comes from Committee.
PASSED, with one abstention.
 - Proposal for Changes to the Concentration in Environmental Health for the Ph.D. in Public Health Sciences.
Pete Walton provided the background of the proposal and answered questions. The proposed changes are to correct an error in the initial version of the curriculum. The required seminar was a three credit hour course, it was split into three separate courses of 3 credits each rather than

one credit hour each. The change results in an apparent decrease in total credit hours by 6 (from 49 to 43), in reality the content of the curriculum has not been changed. The proposal has been approved by the unit and the Curriculum Committee.

MOTION: the motion to approve the changes in the Concentration in Environmental Health for the Ph.D. in Public Health Sciences comes from the Committee.

PASSED.

- Proposal for an Interdisciplinary M.A. in Bioethics and Medical Humanities.

Two of the principal developers of this interdisciplinary proposal, Professors Kimball from Philosophy and Doukas from Family & Geriatric Medicine, presented the proposal. This will be an interdisciplinary degree program within the Graduate School. It is being supported by the Graduate School, Medical School, and College of Arts & Sciences and also includes participation of Law faculty. It is a 33 credit hour course work only Masters, with 21 credit hours as a required core. Rather than a thesis, the proposal calls for a Capstone Course which will involve the development, completion, and presentation of a culminating project.

MOTION: To approve the proposed Interdisciplinary M.A. in Bioethics and Medical Humanities comes from Committee.

PASSED.

3. Report of the Membership Committee.

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

- Bruce M. Horner, Ph.D., Professor of English, Endowed Chair of Rhetoric and Composition, *Department of English*, College of Arts and Sciences.
- Min-Zhan Lu, Ph.D., Professor of English, University Scholar, *Department of English*, College of Arts and Sciences.
- Shamus P. McNamara, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering, *Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering*, Speed School of Engineering.
- Xiangqian Liu, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering, *Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering*, Speed School of Engineering. Daniel Weeks, M.M., Assistant Professor of Voice, School of Music.
- Daniel E. Dykhuizen, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, *Department of Biology*, College of Arts and Sciences.
- Awdhesh Kalia, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology, *Department of Biology*, College of Arts and Sciences.
- Susanna K. Remold, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology, *Department of Biology*, College of Arts and Sciences.

MOTION: To approve the nominations for Senior Member of the Graduate Faculty comes from Committee.
PASSED.

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

- L. Kevin Chapman, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology, *Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences*, College of Arts and Sciences.
- William C. Hoston, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Physics, *Department of Physics & Astronomy*, College of Arts and Sciences.
- Lijian Chen, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Industrial Engineering, *Department of Industrial Engineering*, Speed School of Engineering.
- Cindy Hartnett, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering, *Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering*, Speed School of Engineering.

MOTION: To approve the nominations for Member of the Graduate Faculty comes from Committee.
PASSED

4. Report on the Strategic Plan Foundation.
Bill Pierce, wearing his Provost Office hat, presented the current state of Strategic Planning at UofL. He provided an overview of the planning process that the 30 member Plan Foundation Committee is developing. The committee is soliciting creative ideas from the university community and will use the best ideas "...to develop a strategy for turning those ideas into actions". Professor Pierce distributed to Council a pamphlet briefly describing the Mission, Values, Vision, and Goals that have been outlined in the planning process. Information about the Strategic Planning process is available on the Provost's website. Everyone is encouraged to submit ideas.
5. Bylaws Revision – Formation of a Graduate Council Committee on Interdisciplinary Studies.
This agenda item will be considered at the March Graduate Council meeting.
6. Repopulation of Council Committees.
Associate Dean Stremel reported on the successful repopulation of various Graduate Council committees. New members Joy Hart (A&S), Bill Wead (SOM), and David Scott (SOD) have joined Ruth Huber and Joe Steffen on the Membership Committee. Ann Larson has moved from Membership to Curriculum and is joined by new member David Dubofsky and returning members Lee Larsom (A&S) and Pam Feldhoff (SOM).

7. Other Business.

Dean Atlas reported on diversity plans within the Graduate School and student support related to diversity. There was no new news about the re-organization of the Graduate School. Pam Feldhoff, who runs the Summer Research Opportunity Program for the Office of Research and the Graduate School, has requested volunteers from Graduate Council to serve on a committee to screen applications. Carolyn Klinge, Rammohan Ragade, and Carlton Hornung volunteered. Associate Dean Stremel agreed to request volunteers from the members of Council not present.

Meeting adjourned 4:37 p.m.