

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING
January 22, 2008

Meeting convened at 3:02 PM – Interim Vice Provost and Interim Dean William Pierce presiding.

Members present: Annette Allen, Timothy Brauch, Namok Choi, Susan Griffin, Carlton Hornung, Ruth Huber, Carolyn Klinge, Steven Myers, David Scott, and Joseph Steffen.

Ex officio: Paul DeMarco

Members Absent: David Dubofsky, Evelyne Gozal, Ann Larson, Seow-Chin Ong, George Pack, Rammohan Ragade, Ron Sahoo, Nancy Theriot, James Wittliff.

Guests: Wendy Pfeffer, Bob Ronau

1. Approval of the Minutes from the December 18, 2007 meeting.
MOTION: To approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion made by Susan Griffin and seconded by Joseph Steffen.
PASSED.

2. Election of School of Nursing Representative to Graduate Council
Question was if any graduate faculty stipulations exist regarding minima of research or scholarly activity? Members did not think there was any, but Dr. Steffen said he would check. (Subsequent check revealed no such stipulation.)
MOTION to elect Dr. Deborah Thomas (present) as Nursing representative to replace Karen Robinson by Susan Griffin. Seconded by David Scott.
PASSED.

3. Other Business.

Committees of the Graduate School and Council. A question was raised regarding Committees of the Graduate School and Council. Dr. Pierce asked for the council members to extend their current appointments since any changes to the Graduate School or Council could take three more months.

Graduate School FAQs. Dr. Pierce reviewed anticipated changes to the Graduate School to School of Interdisciplinary and Graduate Studies (SIGS) and announced that he will be serving as interim Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School. He reviewed the FAQs (Graduate Education at the UofL) regarding the changes.

- Recruitment activities: will be at the department level and shared with graduate school
- University Fellows: no changes in program, although funds may be limited due to budget cuts
- Minority recruiting: will continue at the Graduate School level

- Graduate faculty: will no longer come through graduate school, although there will be a university wide set of minimum guidelines that will govern participation in graduate education.
- Dr. Huber expressed concern the request for research activity for the nomination of graduate faculty might prevent some people from graduate faculty approval. (note: the wording on the Proposed Plan was prior to SIGS development). It was suggested to revise the wording to include research or scholarly activity' required.
- Curriculum/courses: (referred to Table of Proposed Procedures for academic review handout). Dr. Pierce discussed reviews by unit and central review. There was some discussion about the process. The sense of the discussion was that some further refinement of interdisciplinary program approval is necessary.
- Commencement/Hooding Ceremony: proposed to keep the ceremony with a separate hooding ceremony, since the number has grown so significantly.
- Budget changes: Fellowships will continue for now and Dr. Pierce is in support of future/continued funding.
- Graduate Council standing committees: Future of graduate council/standing committees (refer to Bylaws). Some standing committees might cease to exist, if there is no longer a need for them. Dr. Pierce invited ideas from the council members and welcomed their input.

Other:

Annette Allen had question about GTA's and amount of minimum teaching requirements. Needs to be equitable across the various units (unit refers to a school/college). Dr. Pfeffer was interested too and will check into this.

There is the need for revision of the Bylaws. Dr. Pierce will convene a drafting group soon that will include some members of Graduate Council and others to revise the Bylaws and to propose minimum guidelines. Graduate Council will review prior to submission for approval and adoption by the Faculty Senate, the Provost and the Board of Trustees. Pierce requested for emails from those wanting to volunteer.

There being no further business, the meeting of the Graduate Council adjourned at 4:05 PM.

Jan Link
2/20/08