

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL  
February 26, 2008

Meeting convened at 3:05 PM – Interim Vice Provost and Interim Dean William Pierce presiding.

Members present: Annette Allen, Timothy Brauch, David Dubofsky, Carlton Hornung, Ann Larson, Steven Myers, Seow-Chin Ong, George Pack, Joseph Steffen, Deborah Thomas, and James Wittliff.

Ex officio: Paul DeMarco

Members Absent: Namok Choi, Evelyne Gozal, Susan Griffin, Ruth Huber, Carolyn Klinge, Rammohan Ragade, Ron Sahoo, David Scott, and Nancy Theriot.

Guests: Wendy Pfeffer (A&S Modern Languages)

1. Approval of the Minutes from the January 22, 2008 meeting.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion made by Joseph Steffen and seconded by Steven Myers.

PASSED.

2. Election of Representatives

Two nominations were received from the Speed School: Dr. John Naber (to replace Dr. Karwowski) and Dr. Mehmed Katardzic (to replace Rammohan Ragade—sabbatical). MOTION to elect nominated representatives. PASSED.

3. Commencement, Hooding Ceremony and Honors

This ceremony was held last fall (refer to list of awards). The Provost wants to continue, combined with the Ceremony and Breakfast on the morning of commencement, at the Kentucky Exposition Center. PhD awards will take about an hour. Dr. Pierce welcomed any comments.

4. Budget and Tuition matters

Dr. Pierce recapped the current budget situation. A 3% cut this year will have no effect on fellowships. Next year a 3-5% cut predicted. Dr. Pierce has made an argument that fellowships should not be hit by this cut. Looking to the future, Dr. Pierce is engaged with the Vice president for Finance regarding tuition and graduate stipends with several proposals. It is predicted that \$66 million per year in stipend support by 2020 to fund PhD education. It will be necessary to rely on philanthropy or grants/contracts.

Dr. Dubofsky announced that University of Maryland is offering a \$32,500 package/year to PhD students. Dr. Pierce proposed to find a way to bring outside

restricted funds in, that could be matched with tuition remission. Dr. Wittliff commented that some departments could offer higher fellowships for outstanding students, through endowments. He would like to have money here to do that or for student travel or research.

5. Other Business.

UofL and China Scholarship Memorandum of Understanding

(Dr. Pierce read and recapped). This is a development after a recruitment trip by Drs. Atlas, Wilhelm and Hudson. Dr. Pierce will meet with Ms. Xiujie Sun from the A&S Dean's Office to discuss this. Multiple departments are involved. The Chinese government would pay a significant amount toward a stipend (save ½ the cost of doctoral student). UofL would pay tuition or some support. The first intake was last August.

6. Old Business

University Fellowships: Scholarship Committee met last week and made recommendation for the 2008 year. The first wave of applicants will go out Feb 27.

7. New Business

SROP Screening Committee: Dr. Pam Feldhoff has contacted Dr. Pierce regarding the Undergraduate Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP). Four volunteers are needed from Graduate Council to screen the applications. Drs. Wittliff and Horning volunteered to be on the committee.

Georgetown College (Scott Co.): In a recent Courier Journal article, this small Baptist college was featured. The president has forged links with African-American Baptist Churches. Dr. Hornung mentioned that Dr. Faye Jones (AD, Minority Affairs, Medicine) should be involved in this effort. She's already working with Mordean Taylor-Archer. Dr. Pierce will follow up.

Deborah Thomas (Nursing): Academic Affairs in Nursing re: Doctoral dissertations. Students may not receive one or more abstentions. There is a need for language to be congruent with Graduate School Handbook.

MOTION to Adjourn by Joseph Steffen at 3:55 PM

*Respectfully submitted*  
*By Jan Link*  
*3/3/08*