

**Graduate Council Minutes
January 20, 2009**

Present: Lawrence Anderson, Barbaranne Benjamin, Jeanne Brockmyer, Dwayne Demedio, Laurie Dinnebeil, Max Funk, Hans Gottgens, Scott Heckathorn, Wayne Hoss, Ruth Hottell, Patricia Komuniecki, Barbara Kopp Miller, Anand Kunnathur, Sara Lundquist, Kelly Phillips, Susan Pocotte, Benjamin Pryor, Ram Rachamadugu, Patricia Relue, Dorothea Sawicki, Barbara Schneider, Alice Skeens, Mark Templin, Amy Thompson, Hermann Von Grafenstein, Frederick Williams

Absent: Jamie Barlowe, John Gaboury, Dong-Shik Kim, Eric Longsdorf, Gary Moore, Azadeh Parvin, James Trempe

Excused: Michael Bisesi, Frank Calzonetti, Mohamed Hefzy, Mylo Jennings, Sakui Malakpa, Anastasia Mirzoyants, Randall Ruch, Kathleen Salyers, Diane Smolen

Guests: Peter Lindquist, Robert Sullivan

Call to Order and Roll

Report of the Executive Committee of the Graduate Council and the Dean of the College of Graduate Studies

Dr. Relue introduced Dr. Komuniecki in her new position of Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs and Dean of the College of Graduate Studies. Council welcomed Dr. Komuniecki and the opportunity for discussions regarding graduate education issues. They will provide the Dean with a list of issues to be acted upon by the Council. Dr. Relue added that faculty are very interested in knowing their assistantship allocations.

Dr. Komuniecki thanked Council for their welcome and she looks forward to working with many faculty that she already knows and those she has not yet worked with. She stated the budget picture does not look promising. She is meeting with Provost to discuss assistantship funding for continuing students and plans share that information as soon as possible. She stressed her advocacy for graduate programs. All of the units will be asked to go through budget reductions of seven and fifteen percent. There will be budget hearings vetted by Scott Scarborough with the possible outcome of reallocations. Dr. Komuniecki will ask deans for background information on graduate programs.

Information and Discussion Items

Discussion with new Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs and Dean of the College of Graduate Studies

Discussion centered mainly on the eagerness of faculty to have their assistantship allocations in place most urgently in support of continuing students. Dr. Dowd expressed concern that cuts to graduate assistantships is comparable to double taxing the Graduate College and the respective colleges and that the Graduate College is an unusual situation. Dr. Relue asked whether President Jacobs supports partial tuition assistantships for those displaced by economy. Dr. Hottell said tuition waivers have worked well for high school teachers and she would like to see that population supported.

Dr. Komuniecki responded that an increase in graduate enrollment generates money coming in and that after having experienced budget cuts over the years she remains optimistic that graduate education not only survive but flourish.

Council would like established university-wide policies for the number credit hours equaling full-time, the number of hours a graduate student is allowed to register during their final semester. Assistantship rules require full-time enrollment, but there is an unspoken rule they can register for one hour in their last term. That opportunity is particularly helpful for international students.

Discussion of Policy for WP/WF Grading

Dr. Relue brought forward for discussion the WP/WF grading policy, which has not been eliminated, but was not implementable with Banner. As this grading mechanism varies on each campus, he stated the need for a graduate policy and sought Council input on whether such policy should apply the same grading mechanisms across all graduate programs or be separated by campus.

Dr. Sawicki stated her support for continued use of the WP/WF grading option and hopes it is technologically possible through Banner. Dr. Pocotte stressed the importance of this grading option for Nursing. Dr. Komuniecki added if the Provost indicates support and Banner can accommodate, she will move forward with the Registrar's office in implementing academic policy.

There was also support for the "IW" grade option because there can be long existing PR's that prove difficult to change into anything other than an "F".

Dr. Dowd suggested that faculty from both campuses convene to bring forth campus-wide policy for Graduate Council endorsement. Dr. Susan Pocotte agreed to serve as chair of this ad-hoc committee with members Dr. Lawrence Anderson and Dr. Barbaranne Benjamin. Dr. Relue added that all grading should be included in the course proposals and with implementation through the Registrar. There needs to be consideration given to the timing of grade options, particularly whether "WP/WF" can overlap with "W", and whether "WP" should represent the grade at that time since a grade of 'C' would not be standard in the Graduate College. It was noted that Ohio University uses W/A,B,C,D,F.

Current Practice of Graduate Students Retaking Courses and Impact on GPA

Academic forgiveness is not uniform campus-wide. Academic forgiveness exists on the Health Science Campus but not the Main Campus. Grading policy could be program-based, however, academic forgiveness should be uniform. There was discussion on whether tuition is covered on a retake, the number of retakes allowable, and whether the grade remains on the transcript but into the GPA calculation.

Council expressed its concerns with issues with Banner. Dr. Pocotte said that as Banner continues to roll out and allows additional things, it creates the need for faculty to backtrack and have it corrected. It was noted there has not been a significant amount of training but significant issues exist globally. Banner access is not always at the appropriate levels for chairs and advisors. Having to repeatedly switch screens is cumbersome. It was noted that many part-time students often do not remember who their advisor is and that is not easily identifiable in Banner. An additional concern was that of online registration ending too early. Dr. Komuniecki added that additional data is available in web report library.

Standing Committee Reports

Report of the Curriculum Committee

Dr. Lawrence Anderson presented the recommendations of the Graduate Curriculum Committee. There was discussion on the computer technology endorsement. Dr. Laurie Dinnebeil explained that it is offered by the State as a requirement by the Ohio Department of Education and added to teacher licensure. It is endorsed by the University. It is not a stand-alone endorsement in that students must be admitted to a graduate program. It is open to students in other programs and is packaged from existing courses. Dr. Dowd pointed out that when curricular items leave the University, it goes through Faculty Senate as an informational item. **[Council unanimously approved all curricular items.]**

NEW COURSE PROPOSALS

EDU	CI	CI:5560	Assessment in Mathematics Education	3
EDU	CI	CI:5580	Teaching and Learning Number, Data, and Probability	3
EDU	CI	CI:5590	Topics in Mathematics Education	3
EDU	CI	CI:7530	Teaching and Learning Geometry and Measurement	3
EDU	CI	CI:7540	Teaching and Learning Algebra	3
EDU	CI	CI:7560	Assessment in Mathematics Education	3
EDU	CI	CI:7580	Teaching and Learning Number, Data, and Probability	3
EDU	CI	CI:7590	Topics in Mathematics Education	3

NEW PROGRAM PROPOSALS

EDU	CI		Computer Technology Endorsement	
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Organizational Reports

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business the Council adjourned at 2:00 p.m.