

GRADUATE AFFAIRS COUNCIL

Friday, November 7, 2008

1:00 p.m. – Hurlburt 248

PRESENT: Matthew Brunner, Lori Elis, Bill Flora, Kristin Froemling, Wayne Gallops, Gerald Gordon, Dennis Grady, Sarah Heintzelman, Eric Mesmer, Douglas Mitchell, Nora Reilly, Susan Schoppelrey, James Werth, Paul Witkowski.

Guests: Ellen Taylor, Donna Spradlin.

1. MINUTES/ INTRODUCTIONS

Minutes from the October 3, 2008 meeting were approved as presented.

2. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Graduate Faculty – There were two applications for Graduate Faculty Standing requiring subcommittee review recommended for approval. Discussion followed regarding the recommended Graduate Faculty Standing for Christopher White. A motion was made to defer the application for Graduate Faculty Standing until the dissertation is complete and approve the application submitted for limited Graduate Faculty Associate Standing. At that time Mr. White would be eligible to apply for Graduate Faculty Standing (GF1B) through the Graduate College Dean's Office rather than resubmission through Graduate Affairs Council. The motion was seconded and approved with one abstention. Eight applications requiring subcommittee review were presented and recommended for approval. All of the remaining applications were approved unanimously as presented (see attached).

Academic Course and Program Review – The first meeting of the subcommittee was held on Friday, October 17, 2008. Minutes from that meeting were provided, and the following proposals were recommended for approval. Separate motions to approve recommendations for Math and Statistics, and Psy.D. proposals were made, seconded, and approved unanimously as presented.

MATH AND STATISTICS

New Course Proposal

01-STAT-08 STAT 644, Applied Statistics for Teachers

New Course Proposal

01-MATH/EDUC-08 MATH/EDUC 650, Graduate Seminar: Theory and Practice in Mathematics Education

02-MATH-08 MATH 621, History of Mathematics

03-MATH/EDUC-08 MATH/EDUC 620, Issues of Equity and Diversity in Mathematics Education

04-MATH/EDUC-08	MATH 691, Professional Seminar: Research in Mathematics Education
05-MATH-08	MATH 623, Algebraic Reasoning and Mathematical Structures
06-MATH-08	MATH 641, Mathematical Analysis and Modeling
07-MATH-08	MATH 600, Foundations of the Number System
08-MATH-08	MATH 635, Euclidean and Non-Euclidean Geometry

Program Revision and
Other Catalog Revisions

09-MATH-08	New Math Concentration in M.S. in Education
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PSY.D.

Course Title Change

01-PSYC-08	PSYC 630, Cognitive and Affective Aspects of Behavior to <i>Cog/Aff Aspects of Behav</i>
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Course Deletion

02-PSYC-08	PSYC 804, Integrative Approaches to Psychotherapy
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Course Description,
Credit Hour, and
Syllabus Change

03-PSYC-08	PSYC 840, Counseling Psychology Practicum I
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Course Prerequisite,
Description, Credit
Hour, and Syllabus
Change

04-PSYC-08	PSYC 841, Counseling Psychology Practicum II
05-PSYC-08	PSYC 842, Counseling Psychology, Practicum III

New Course Proposal

06-PSYC-08	PSYC 843, Counseling Psychology Summer Practicum
07-PSYC-08	PSYC 898, Doctoral Directed Study

Program Revision and
Other Catalog Revisions

08-PSYC-08	Program Revision, Variety of Purposes
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Graduate Student Council (GSC) – The chair of Graduate Student Council, Sarah Heintzelman, reported that the October 18 game night event was a success with approximately 30 in attendance. A Mindfulness training to provide stress reduction techniques to students is scheduled for November 16. Graduate Student Council will co-host a reception after hooding on December 19. A proposed grant for graduate student

professional development reimbursement was awarded to Graduate Student Council for \$2500. For academic year 2008-2009 the graduate college will match that amount. Registration and lodging expenses may be reimbursed up to \$500. Information and forms are posted under the Forms for Students link on the graduate college website. Sarah Heintzleman is co-chairing the Student Involvement sub-committee of the University Sustainability Steering Committee. More graduate student representation is being sought. Faculty should have interested students contact Sarah.

Strategic Plan - No activity.

3. DISCUSSION

Calendars - Council members discussed the need to revise the Graduate Affairs Council and sub-committee meeting calendar for 2008-2009 in order to be able to process numerous forthcoming course and program review proposals for Occupational Therapy, Business Administration, English, and School of Teacher Education and Leadership. A revised calendar was agreed upon and will be emailed to Council members and posted on the graduate college website. Dr. Reilly noted that additional meetings may be necessary for the Strategic Plan sub-committee in the Spring semester.

Grades +/- - Dr. Grady reported that, at the first meeting of the University's Academic Policy and Procedures Committee, discussion arose about changing the current Graduate College grading system. He was asked to initiate discussion in Graduate Affairs Council on such a change. A number of Council members expressed the opinion that a more discrete system with a wider range of grading options would more accurately reflect student performance. From a graduate student standpoint, Sarah Heintzleman suggested that discrete grading would reflect better the differences among students' efforts and performance in a given course. Matthew Brunner from the Registrar's Office said that grading in Banner will be implemented in January 2010. He observed that, although a +/- system could be difficult to implement, the Graduate Council should not make its recommendation based on that reason. Dr. Grady asked Council members to go back to their departments and obtain feedback about potential grading system changes and report back to the December Graduate Affairs Council meeting. Bill Flora volunteered to provide a list of what other peer universities are doing, and the graduate college will draft a couple of potential motions.

Graduate Recruiting – Donna Spradlin, Director of Graduate Recruiting and Retention discussed an email regarding a Graduate Talent Identification Program. The email outlined a recruiting event strategy to communicate with non-RU students at liberal arts schools within a 200 mile radius of campus using faculty networks. The proposed plan is to have students arrive in the early afternoon, tour campus, share a meal with students and faculty in their program, stay over night, and the following day attend a class, meet program faculty, and leave that day around noon. The initial spans have been modified so that each program can utilize this to their benefit by scheduling dates that suit each program instead of a one-time date set by the Graduate College. To date, the Graduate College has only received a proposed date from one program. A cut-off date for funding is set for December 15, 2008. Funds not committed by this time will be converted back to the Graduate College. Programs requesting help from Donna are asked to provide advance notice. Budget requests should be made a month in advance. Funding will be transferred from the graduate college budget to program budgets on an ad hoc basis. Each program may spend up to \$1900 depending on the number of students recruited. The number of students programs recruit will depend on the overnight accommodations, e.g., stay with other students or hotel. Departments will complete the travel request, and travel reimbursement forms, and submit receipts for mileage to be reimbursed through their own department. Meals will be here on campus using catering services. Recruiting plans for the Graduate Talent Identification Program and a list of students recruited for event(s) should be sent to Donna Spradlin as soon as possible. An initial letter will be sent to students selected from the graduate college dean.

There was a question about when GTF's would be assigned for next year. The graduate college is targeting a date just before Christmas break. Due to the budget reversion GA allocations for next year are unknown. In line with the University 7-17 Strategic Plan, GA and GTF funding is not expected to be a part of the overall budget reversion; however, based on reassignment of administrative positions some programs may see an increase or decrease in the number of allocations.

4. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.

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**Recommendations from Graduate Faculty Sub-Committee
Graduate Affairs Council Meeting
Friday, November 7, 2008**

Graduate Faculty Status		
Cynthia Creighton	Occupational Therapy	
Adjunct Graduate Faculty Status		
Graduate Faculty Associate		
Christopher White	Music	

**Graduate Faculty Applications Not Requiring Sub-Committee Review
(Approved Since Last Graduate Affairs Council Meeting)**

Graduate Faculty Status		
Kenneth Cox	COSD	
Mark Whiting	Psychology	
Douglas Mitchell	Occupational Therapy	
Mary Mattern Smith	Education	
Bernd Kuennecke	Geography	
Jonathan Tso	Geology	
Adjunct Graduate Faculty Status		
Amy Aussiker	Psychology	
Cathy Hudgins	Counselor Education	
Graduate Faculty Associate		