

Graduate Faculty Council Minutes October 2, 2007

- I. Meeting called to order: 4:05 pm
- II. Approval of minutes from September 4, 2007: approved
- III. Old Business
 - a. Presidential Election: one nomination received, Nancy Auer. Nancy accepted nomination and was elected unanimously.
 - b. Secretary Election: Jackie H. discussed the role of the secretary and some suggestions offered by the University Senate. No volunteers came forward. Emily McCarthy will continue to take the minutes.
 - c. Action Items from 9/4/07 meeting
 - i. "Pickens' Proposal"

Proposed addition to continuous enrollment policy: Students will be classified by the university as full time if they "are enrolled in the full complement of courses specified in the curriculum for a professional masters program for a given term." **Discussion:** Jackie H. commented that the language could be changed to "coursework masters" instead of "professional masters". Pat M.: Why play to exceptions? Nancy B.: Not all MS courses are coursework-only and all coursework-only masters aren't 30 credits. Jimmy D.: Make all MS degrees 36 credits Tess A.: Masters of Engineering is 30 credits Jackie H.: Seems like a non-issue for most and can work with the grad school on exceptions Craig F.: No issue in ME Nancy B.: This is an issue for financial aid because students have to start paying back aid once no longer considered full time Jackie H.: Pickens should come and address GFC **Someone** moved to table the discussion, Jimmy D. seconded. Motion passed.
 - ii. Peace Corps Masters International in RTC-Craig Waddell

Craig W.: All RTC faculty have signed on. Program would be modeled after the other MI programs on campus: one year of coursework, 27 months in the field, and return to campus to write up project. The past director of MI Program was very supportive. RTC program would be considered an expansion of the program that already exists on campus, which makes things somewhat easier. **Discussion** Judith P.: Are there coursework guidelines set up? Craig W.: A sample program was outlined and passed out last meeting. Nancy A.: Biology noted that there are no health science faculty for advising. This is important if dealing with HIV/AIDS. Craig W.: Agreed and said they were looking into courses that RTC students could take in Biology. Also asked for suggestions for faculty members. Nancy A.: Health science faculty would strengthen proposal and recommended that Ron Gratz be contacted. Pat M.: Why is the proposal so specific in terms of areas covered? Why HIV/AIDS and not health in general? Craig W.: They are answering a call for proposals and these are the categories in which the RTC program can fit. Nancy A.: What's the next step? Does GFC need to approve anything? Craig W.: Heard that GFC needs to approve and then they can go to Provost Jackie H.: GFC needs to give her feedback. Then she and the Provost discuss. This approval will go to University Senate, but not to the state.
- IV. New Business
 - a. Grad School Update (Jackie H.)
 - i. Thesis and dissertation

Use of turnitin.com will be optional. She mentioned that the grad students felt like it was part of the advisor's responsibility to make sure they aren't having any issues with plagiarism.

Bill Y.: Is the turnitin.com account university-wide or housed in the Grad School Office? Jackie H.: Not sure Tess A.: Will 2 week deadline still stand? Jackie H.: Yes. Defense draft still required. Deb will be checking formatting. Defenses will not be held up if there are formatting issues, just need to be addressed before final copy submitted Tess A.: Formatting list available online? Jackie H.: Yes, link will be available Rupak R.: Should there be a mandatory course on academic integrity? Jackie H.: There is a 3-cr course on the books and she is in talks with the registrar about making it 0-cr, but mandatory for all grad students, maybe in their first year. Definitely need for training. NSF might be able to send someone. M. Mullins: Chem Eng has a required course on methods and ethics of research. Shekhar J.: Who would teach proposed course? Jackie H.: Possibly Pat Gotshalk and Deb Charlesworth M. Mullins: The focus of the course would be different and more comprehensive for science than perhaps what Pat can do. Include topics like staling and fabrication of data. Judith P.: Maybe could start with a 1 hour program in dept grad seminars. Jackie H.: Deb and Joanne Polzien might be able to design something. Richard H.: Maybe issues with plagiarism show lack of mentoring. Course should not focus on laws. Jackie H.: Could do a 4-hour seminar before classes start Beth F.: There are people on campus who teach ethics; maybe our early grad courses should be focusing on this more.

ii. GFC/Senate Roles

Areas of overlap between Senate and GFC. Matters that fall into these areas will require Senate approval all other matters do not.

a. Areas as highlighted in handout from Jackie: 1) All curricular matters, including establishment, dissolution, and changes in degree programs. 2) Requirements for certificates and academic degrees. 3) Regulations regarding attendance, examinations, grading, scholastic standing, probation, and honors. 4) Admission standards and procedures. 5) All areas of student affairs not mentioned specifically above, including their effect on the educational process and on academic achievement. **Discussion** Richard H.: Specific examples that don't need Senate approval? Jackie H.: Last term continuous enrollment and thesis copyright issues

b. Room Arrangements/Scheduling

Nancy A.: Looking for a room that better facilitates discussion

V. Adjournment: 4:55pm

Attendance:

M. Mullins (Chem Eng) Nancy Auer (Biol) Heather Youngs (Biol) Rupak Rajachar (Biomed)
Chris Middlebrook (ECE) Phillip Merkey (CSERI) Craig Friedrich (MEEM) Tess Ahlborn (CEE)
Jianping Dong (Math) Shekhar Joshi (SFRES) Dave Chesney (CH) Pat Martin (SS)
Wm. Yarroch (Cog & Learn Sci) Richard Honrath (Atmos Sci) Brian Davis (Technology)
Jimmy Diehl (Geo/Mining) Beth Flynn (Humanities) Judith Perlinger (EPD2) Nancy Byers-Sprague
(GSO) Jackie Huntoon (GSO) Emily McCarthy (GSC) Recording Secretary for 10/2/2007