

Graduate Council Minutes  
Mississippi State University  
2000-2001

NUMBER: 8

DATE: April 27, 2001

PRESENT: L. Reinschmiedt, Vice Chair; S. Bullington; L. Hanson; D. Hare; R. Harkess; T. Hosie; R. Jenkins; T. Kohers; J. Miller; K. Paul; W. Person; G. Rent; M. Rybolt for C. Weaver; S. Schoenholtz; C. Sides; M. Thorne; D. Welch; J. Wesley; D. Wolfe for J. Inmon.

ABSENT: R. Altenkirch, F. Coleman; B. Spencer; C. Taylor, John Boyle, Chair; G. Dunaway

GUESTS: N. Lovell

1. Dr. Lynn Reinschmiedt called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. in room 611 Allen Hall.
2. At last month's meeting of the Graduate Council, it was stated that a memorandum had been sent to the provost outlining the recommendation of the Graduate Council that each college or program develop their own specific criteria to establish satisfactory/unsatisfactory academic progress. The provost has followed up with the recommendation by sending out a letter to the deans requesting that they establish such criteria and also communicate these criteria to the Office of Graduate Studies, so they can be printed in the *Bulletin*.
3. Dr. Reinschmiedt presented the minutes for the Graduate Council meeting held on March 23, 2001. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes with editorial modifications.
4. Dr. Ned Lovell was in attendance to answer the concerns the Graduate Council has regarding the program modification of the Master's and Specialist's degree in Educational Leadership, which was tabled at last month's meeting. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to untable the program modifications. Dr. Lovell answered some questions and discussed the programs and the proposed modifications. After Dr. Lovell left, other concerns were raised. After further discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and passed to table the issue until further explanation could be provided.

The IHL and UCCC approved the addition of the Doctor of Philosophy in Community College Leadership without any additional resources. A motion is made, seconded, and passed to approve the addition of the Doctor of Philosophy in

Community College Leadership. The vote tally showed eleven in favor and none opposed.

The third item the Graduate Council considered on the UCCC report was the modification of the Doctor of Philosophy in Education, School Administration, which is a name change. It was stated that an editorial adjustment needs to be made changing “doctorate” to “doctor.” A motion is made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the modification of the Doctor of Philosophy in Education, School Administration.

5. Dr. Person announced that the Office of Graduate Studies has been successful with the GAANN (Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need) fellowship program, which is supported by the U.S. Department of Education. Chemistry and Engineering Physics will have ten new fellowships to begin in August, for three years, at a level of \$18,000 per fellowship, with a \$10,854 per fellowship institutional allowance. The Mathematics & Statistics proposal missed funding by one-tenth of one point; Dr. Person will be pursuing that area at the next opportunity, which will be in October.

The Office of Graduate Studies has a Graduate Assistant Evaluation form on their website for use in evaluating your graduate assistants. The Office of Human Resources Management is going to link their website to the Office of Graduate Studies’ website in order to connect others to the Graduate Assistant Evaluation form. A copy of the form was provided for those in attendance.

6. The representative for the Graduate Student Association, Mr. Michael Rybolt, informed the Council that the Graduate Students Association Awards Banquet held on April 25, was a success. The new officers for the 2001-2002 GSA are: Stevie Watson, President; John Perkins, Vice President; Michelle Williams, Secretary; and Beth Underwood, Treasurer.
7. Nominations of officers for the Graduate Council were made for the 2001-2002 academic year. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to nominate Dr. John Boyle for Chair. A motion was made to nominate Dr. Dwight Hare for Vice-Chair, but Dr. Hare declined the nomination. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to nominate Dr. Reinschmiedt for Vice-Chair. The Office of Graduate Studies will conduct voting for these officers via e-mail.
8. As an item of new business, Ms. Diane Wolfe gave an update of graduate activity in the Admissions Office. Ms. Wolfe stated that Admissions is further ahead today than it was at this time last year. The number of applications processed increased by 12% to date. There are 150 international applications yet to process. To inquire about the status of a particular student, call Admissions, and they will work with you.

The Admissions Office not only processes applications for MSU Main Campus but also Vicksburg, Stennis, Meridian, and readmission applications. The past three years have shown that 55%-65% of all domestic applicants actually end up enrolling,

and 9%-11% of the international applicants actually enroll. The Admissions Office also sends out I-20s for international students. To do this, departments need to provide an assistantship letter for each student, indicating coverage of the amount that each student needs.

Ms. Wolfe discussed the GradAdvantage online application service. She stated that the Office of Admissions is not receiving test scores from GradAdvantage, as promised.

9. Dr. Reinschmiedt asked Dr. George Rent if a determination had been made on the 15% increase in tuition and fees. Dr. Rent stated that he does not know, but he will look into it.
10. Dr. Reinschmiedt reminded the Council that the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has a set, minimum level of money that international students must secure before they can be issued an I-20. Currently, at MSU, that level is \$18,540. A tuition increase will effect that level and this needs to be taken into consideration when assistantships and stipends are prepared. Dr. Reinschmiedt requested that the Council e-mail their Graduate Coordinators with this information.
11. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 P.M.