

Graduate Council Minutes

Number: 9

Date: May 16, 2003

Present: P. Bonfanti, J. Boyle, R. Burrell, F. Coleman, G. Dunaway, D. Hare, T. Hosie, S. Lokken-Worthy (for S. Byrd), L. Reinschmiedt, W. Person, C. Sides, T. Schultz, B. Spencer, D. Wolfe

Absent: L. Barrow, S. Bullington, E. Milam, R. Shivaji, C. Wang, D. Wise, M. Williams, J. Pote, G. Rent, D. Welch

**Guests: Dr. Mark Goodman, Robert Holland Faculty Senate
Dr. Bob Taylor, Associate Dean, Bagley College of Engineering
Dr. John Lamberth, Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Sport**

1. Dr. John Boyle called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in Room 611 Allen.
2. A needed correction was noted to the April 25 minutes. Page 4, item 7. b., paragraph 3, line 4, the word “on” should be inserted in the following: “. . . dean, the Graduate Council should vote *on* the guidelines.” On motion from Dr. Tor Schultz and second from Dr. Greg Dunaway, the Council approved the April 25, 2003, minutes with the noted modification.
3. Report from the University Committee on Courses and Curricula (UCCC):

The Council reviewed a proposed program modification from the Department of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Sports. Dr. John Lamberth, Associate Professor, Health, Physical, Recreation and Sports, presented the proposed program modification for the M.S. in Physical Education, Concentration: Exercise Science. The current Exercise Science curriculum has a core of five (5) courses, not including the research core. The proposal is to have two (2) “Areas of Emphasis” within the Exercise Science concentration. These areas of emphasis would be referred to as “Clinical Exercise Physiology” and “Strength and Conditioning.” The proposed curriculum would have a common three (3) course core for all students in the Exercise Science concentration and two (2) additional courses specific to the area of emphasis. A new course, Doping and Supplement Use in Sport, which has been approved, will be offered in conjunction with the program. As a program modification, this change will not have to go before IHL. On motion by Dr. Tom Hosie and second by Dr. Schultz, the Council voted to accept the proposed program modification.

The Council reviewed a proposed certificate modification from the Dean of Engineering. Dr. Bob Taylor, Associate Dean, Bagley College of Engineering, presented the proposed modification for the Materials Certificate in Engineering Program. The request is required because some of the courses required (listed in catalog) are no longer taught, emphasis in course content on materials is needed, and the certificate course requirements need to be kept flexible and adaptable to student needs and interests. The certificate is available to undergraduate and graduate students. The Council discussed whether a graduate student could go through the certificate program and take only undergraduate level courses. Dr. Taylor indicated that this is not the intent of the program. Dr. Boyle noted that graduate students would be required to maintain a "B" average in the certificate program, not a "C" as the program modification reflects. On motion by Dr. Lynn Reinschmiedt, and second by Dr. Dunaway, the Council voted to approve the modification, with the change that the grade average must match the graduation requirements for graduate students.

4. At the request of the Council, Dr. Mark Goodman, Chair, Faculty Affairs Committee, MSU Robert Holland Faculty Senate, attended the meeting in order to discuss a report concerning Graduate School policies that Dr. Walter Diehl had forwarded to the Council for review on February 26, 2003.

In the report, the Faculty Affairs Committee made the two (2) following recommendations:

- a. Modification to the Appeal of Academic Status – As modified, a student could appeal to the college dean only after all revenues of recourse at the program level have been exhausted. Also, the dean involved in appeals process concerning the status of a dissertation should meet with all members of the dissertation or thesis committee, as well as the program's graduate coordinator, before issuing a final decision.
- b. A request by the Graduate Council that all departments with graduate programs develop guidelines – The report provided a list of proposed issues for inclusion.

Dr. Goodman provided the Council with background on the development of the two (2) recommendations. After discussion of the recommendations and their implications, Dr. Boyle asked for Council members to volunteer to serve as a subcommittee to review the recommendations of the Faculty Affairs Committee. Drs. Boyle, Reinschmiedt, and B. Spencer will comprise the subcommittee. The subcommittee will report back to the Council at the August 22, 2003 meeting.

5. Dr. William Person presented the report from the Office of Graduate Studies:
 - a. Doctoral degrees will be awarded to 37 doctoral candidates. This brings the total number of doctoral degrees awarded for the 2002-2003 academic year to 93. The university will not maintain SREB Level I doctoral status; the university will retain Carnegie status. The Roundtable on Graduate Education discussed the decline in the number of graduate students completing degrees; enrollment numbers do not indicate a decline.

- b. OGS has concluded interviews for the Accounting Assistant III position in the office. This position, formerly held by Ms. Jimmie Wesley, processes graduate assistantship applications. There were 30 applicants for the position; six applicants were interviewed.
 - c. A retirement reception will be held for Ms. Dale Welch on June 13, 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the Grisham Room, Memorial Mitchell Library. We will collect letters of recognition for Ms. Welch. Please send them to Ms. Rita Burrell in OGS. Formal invitations to the reception will be sent out.
 - d. Two MSU students have received SREB fellowships, effective May 2003. One student is in computer science and one is in political science. Each will pursue the doctoral degree in their respective majors.
 - e. Nominations have been received for 2003-2004 Graduate Council Chair and Vice-Chair. Drs. Tom Hosie and Dwayne Wise have been nominated for Chair. Nominations for Vice-Chair include Drs. Stan Bullington, B. Spencer, and D. Wise. A request for vote via e-mail will be sent out soon. Results will be sent to the Council as quickly as possible.
5. Dr. Michele Williams presented Graduate Student Association activities:
- a. New officers for GSA will assume their duties on July 1, 2003. A transitional meeting will be held the first week in June.
 - b. All graduate student travel requests for FY 2002-2003 are due by June 1.
- Dr. Boyle congratulated GSA on a successful year.
6. The Council discussed the following items of Old Business:
- a. As noted earlier, the subcommittee to review the recommendations by the Faculty Affairs Committee, Robert Holland Faculty Senate, will report at the August 22, 2003 meeting.
 - c. Dr. Boyle will compile a summary of Council actions for 2003-2004.
7. As an item of New Business, the Mississippi State University Graduate Council for 2003-2004 would like to thank Ms. Dale Welch for her many years of service to past Graduate Councils and graduate education in general.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.