

**Graduate Council Minutes
Mississippi State University**

NUMBER: **9**

DATE: **May 17, 2002**

PRESENT: J. Boyle, Chair, D. Hare, R. Harkess, T. Hosie, J. Miller, W. Person,
 L. Reinschmiedt, R. Shivaji, C. Sides, B. Spencer, S. Thrower, C. Wang,
 D. Welch, J. Wesley, M. Williams (for S. Watson), D. Wolfe

ABSENT: R. Altenkirch, S. Bullington, F. Coleman, G. Dunaway, R. Jenkins, E.
 Milam, T. Schultz, C. Taylor, S. Watson

1. Dr. John Boyle called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. in the Faculty/Graduate Study Area of Mitchell Memorial Library (fourth floor).
2. There was one correction to the April 26, 2002 minutes, item #7 line 7 (spelling error). A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to adopt the minutes of the Graduate Council meeting held on April 26, 2002.
3. There was no report from the University Committee on Courses and Curricula. Dr. Boyle stated that he wrote a letter to the Provost on April 26 regarding Certificate Programs but has not yet received a response. In addition, he discovered 1997 records that indicate Dr. Koshel appointed a committee to study certificate programs. The purpose of the committee was to establish that the Graduate Council should examine certificate programs.
4. In his report from the Office of Graduate Studies (OGS), Dr. William Person:
 - Distributed a handout consisting of several tables of applications, admissions, and enrollment data for graduate studies at Mississippi State University. The tables described included: **Summary of New Graduate Application, Admission, and Enrollment Data by Race/Ethnicity for 2001, 2000, and 1999; Summary of Application Status Data by Graduate Student Classification for 2001, 2000, and 1999; Summary of Enrollment Status Data for New Graduate Students by Gender and Enrollment Period for 2001, 2000, and 1999; Graduate Student Enrollment Data by Year and Student Classification for 1989-2001; Graduate School Application Status Data for 1973-2001; Graduate School International Application Status Data for Fall 1988-2001.**

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- Reported that there is a subcommittee in place to review a dismissal appeal in the College of Education. Drs. John Boyle, Chinling Wang, and Ed Milam have been asked to serve as a subcommittee to review the appeal and are in the process of doing so. They will report their findings to Dr. Roy Ruby, Dean of the College of Education, as soon as they conclude deliberations.
5. There was no report from the Graduate Student Association (GSA).
 6. As an item of old business, Council members read and discussed the April 16, 2002, letter of Dr. Michele Williams, GSA Secretary, to Dr. Boyle. Dr. Williams wrote the letter to the Graduate Council on behalf of the GSA to address the lack of University support for the Graduate Student Association. After some deliberation and suggestions by the Council members, Dr. Boyle stated that it should be the consensus of the Graduate Council to strongly support the GSA and will suggest ways that GSA members can enhance the organization.
 7. As an item of old business, the issue of tuition waivers was re-introduced. Dr. Boyle raised the question of whether students who are not receiving a stipend should have their tuition and fees waived. After some discussion, it was decided that the issue should be tabled until the August meeting. Dr. Boyle suggested that Council members talk to their colleagues and Graduate Coordinators about the tuition waivers.
 8. As another item of old business, Dr. Dwight Hare spoke to the issue of Quality in graduate studies and suggested limiting the enrollment of graduate students to ensure quality and preserve standards. Dr. Boyle suggested that Dr. Hare prepare something in writing concerning quality programs, program costs, and the increase in the number of graduate students. Comments should be sent to the Provost and IHL with more concrete suggestions about reviewing programs.
 9. One item of new business was the issue of a faculty member serving as a major professor for a student enrolled in a different area. Dale Welch addressed the issue of whether a student's major professor can be from another department if his or her department does not have a Level I faculty in the student's particular area. Ms. Welch made reference to the *Bulletin* and stated that a ruling from the Graduate Council is needed to solve the problem.
 10. Diane Wolfe informed the Council that the new deadline for international student applications is May 1st.

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11. The last item of new business was the Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2002-2003. Dr. Boyle handed out the Nominations sheet for Chair and Vice-Chair of the Graduate Council, for 2002-2003. The nominees for Chair are: Drs. John Boyle, Gregory Dunaway, and Dwight Hare. The nominees for Vice-Chair are Drs. Stanley Bullington and Thomas Hosie. Dr. Dwight Hare requested to be removed from the list as a Chair nominee due to other commitments.

12. The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.