

Minutes

Commission on Graduate Studies & Policies

February 21, 2007

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Graduate Life Center at Donaldson Brown

Present: Ms. Linsey Barker, Dr. Karen DePauw, Professor Bill Galloway, Dr. Tim Mack, Dr. Kumar Mallikarjunan, Ms. Penny McCallum, Ms. Gail McMillan, Ms. Margaret Merrill, Dr. Suzanne Murrmann, Dr. Tom Ollendick, Dr. Carolyn Rude, Ms. Rebecca Slutzky, Ms. Chris Thomas, Mr. Brian Whitaker

Absent with Notification: Dr. Scott Case, Dr. Ron Daniel, Dr. François Elvinger, Dr. Eileen Hitchingham, Mr. Greg Lemmond, Dr. Gerhardt Schurig, Dr. Audrey Zink-Sharp

Absent without Notification: Mr. Sherif Agha, Dr. Jim Collier, Ms. Mary Ann Norman

Conference call: Dr. Rosary Lalik

Invited Guests: Mr. Marvin Foushee, Dr. Brian Mihalik, Dr. Wolfgang Natter, Dr. Jerome Niles, Ms. Jacqueline Nottingham

Dr. Kumar Mallikarjunan called the meeting to order.

Approval of the agenda: Dr. Karen DePauw added a discussion of the “Institutional Plan for Graduate Degrees” to the agenda.

Approval of minutes from February 7, 2007: Approved.

Committee Reports

Graduate Curriculum Committee (GCC): The minutes from the February 8th meeting were reviewed and approved.

Graduate Student Appeals: No report.

Graduate Student Relations: No report.

Degree Requirement Standards Criteria and Academic Policy (DRSCAP): Dr. Mack reported that several topics were under discussion.

Other Reports

Graduate Student Assembly (GSA): No report.

Graduate Honor System (GHS): Mr. Whitaker reported that 22 new panelists have been trained. Four cases have been carried over from last semester, but will be wrapped up by the end of the current semester. The GHS has one new case. The GHS will conduct two panelist training sessions during Graduate Education Week. Training is ongoing for new investigators. There is a GHS appeal currently in process.

Mr. Whittaker recommended that the commission discuss the undergraduate honor system issues at the March 21 meeting.

University Library Committee (ULC): No report.

University Council: At the last meeting, Dr. Elvinger presented the Master of Arts in Foreign Languages, Cultures, and Literatures for a second reading. The council approved the degree proposal. The joint degree proposal with Georgetown in Biomedical Technology Development and Management was presented for a first reading. Council members voted to waive a second reading, and approved the joint proposal. Both proposals will be presented to the Board of Visitors at their March meeting.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Professor Galloway, GCC chair, presented the new degree proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, the *Ph.D. in Social, Political, Ethical and Cultural Thought* for a first reading. Dr. Wolfgang Natter, Professor, Political Science, gave a program overview, and answered questions from the commission members. Dr. Natter emphasized that the degree would foster innovative work, so that, for example, a political science question could be viewed through a broader, multidisciplinary lens. Dr. Jerome Niles explained the financial support of the proposal in general, and in particular, the GTA support. Dr. DePauw recommended that the language be clarified. Dr. DePauw recommended that the commission consider the standard two readings for this proposal. She also recommended that the commission request that the University Council members review and approve after one reading. Following this schedule, Dr. Wolfgang predicted the proposal could be presented at the June Board of Visitors meeting. Dr. DePauw encouraged commission members to send questions to Dr. Elvinger.

Professor Galloway introduced the degree proposal, *Simultaneous Master of Public and International Affairs and Master of Urban and Regional Planning* from the College of Architecture. Because “simultaneous” degree proposals combine existing programs, the proposal does not need approval from University Council. The commission will review and discuss the proposal at the March meeting.

Dr. DePauw will report on the activities of the Ethics and Professional Conduct Subcommittee at a future meeting. She suggested that workshop planning and implementation be postponed until another semester.

Announcements: Dr. DePauw will announce the (2007–2008) Institutional Plan for Graduate Degrees (IPGD) prior to the March 21st commission meeting. Proposals for new degrees must first appear on the approved IPGD. She also reviewed upcoming proposals, including the collaborative Ph.D. degree in Health Promotions and VCOM’s doctor of osteopathic medicine; a joint Ph.D. in Hotel and Tourism Management with a university in Lausanne, Switzerland; a Ph.D. in translational medicine (vet med); a Ph.D. (and Master of Science) in real estate; and an NCR proposal, the executive master’s of city and metropolitan planning.

Dr. DePauw announced that the College Outstanding Student Award now includes both MS and PhD students. The deadline for nominations has been extended to March 2, 2007.

Dr. Mihalik commented on the increase of graduate courses which are submitted for approval. Mr. Marvin Foushee stated he is currently reviewing courses to determine if they are still being

taught. Dr. DePauw suggested that the commission may want to consider becoming more involved in, and aware of, curriculum development.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Ms. Nancy B. Feuerbach, on behalf of

Dr. Karen P. DePauw, Vice Provost for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School