

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL FOR GRADUATE STUDIES

MINUTES, Meeting 370

6 April 2007

2:00 p.m., 177B Administration Building

PRESENT: D. Arant (UNIV), L. Bennett (CAS), P. Betts (SUAP), S. Chrietzberg (T&D), R. Cox (ESCI), C. Danehower (FCBE; proxy C. Langstraat), R. Gudmestad (HIST, proxy L. Bennett), R. Koch (NURS), C. Langstraat (ACCT), M. Logan (CCFA), K. Nelson (GSA), E. Rakow (COE), H. Perkins (ICL, proxy E. Rakow), D. Sherrell (MKTG), S. Slack (ENGR), L. Weiss (HSS, proxy E. Rakow), C. Williams (ENTH)

Ex Officio: K. Weddle-West (VPGS)

ABSENT: J. Brownlee (Graduate School), E. Perry (Faculty Senate), C. Schiro-Geist (VPAA), C. Serex (Curriculum Planning), N. Wallace (ART), D. Wark (AUSP)

GUESTS: E. French (PADM), R. Dupont (CJUS), D. Hochstein (ENTH), A. Peevyhouse (new GSA rep)

K. Weddle-West called the meeting to order at 2:10 pm, after the First Friday Forum concluded its business.

370.1 Approval of Minutes of Meeting 369, 3/2/07: E. Rakow (2/C. Williams) moved that the minutes be approved as distributed. The motion was carried by voice vote.

370.2 Announcements

370.2.1 ETS Aborts New GRE: K. Weddle-West called members' attention to the emailed announcement that the proposed new GRE has been cancelled.

370.2.2 NRC Assessment and Questionnaire: K. Weddle-West thanked all the participating faculty and the graduate assistants who worked so tirelessly on the NRC Assessment and Questionnaire.

370.2.3 Writing and Publishing Your Thesis, Dissertation: K. Weddle-West called members' attention to the book, Writing and Publishing Your Thesis, Dissertation, and Research: A Guide for Students in the Helping Professions, by P. Paul Heppner and Mary J. Heppner available through Amazon.com.

370.3 Old Business: There was no old business.

370.4 New Business

- 370.4.1 Interdisciplinary doctoral degree in Urban Affairs and Public Policy: Drs. L. Bennett and R. Dupont introduced this proposed new program, the first truly interdisciplinary doctorate on campus. It is designed on the cohort model and would entail two new faculty lines. There was a good deal of discussion about the budget. Most of the cost of the program is in the new faculty lines and graduate assistantships. Confusion arose because there is no place in the budget form supplied by THEC for assistantships, so those costs were placed under "Operating Costs--Other." It was suggested that this be clarified in the notes and in the text. The Faculty Benefits line is to reimburse the faculty member's home department for the courses that he or she would otherwise be teaching there. The over-riding budget question was where the funds would come from. Other points raised included:
- p. 4: All core courses should be 8000, since the university is reimbursed at a higher rate for 8000 courses. It was also suggested that EDPR 8651, Qualitative Methods in Education, would also be good as part of the core.
 - p. 4: A residency requirement for part-time students is needed.
 - p. 6, section on prerequisites: remove "prior to admission" and "conditionally."
 - p. 6: Delete section 3.
 - p. 8: Clarify that the Admissions Board is the same as Governance Board, so Admissions knows where to send DRFs.
 - p. 10: Rewrite accreditation section to begin with SACS and then note that there is no accrediting body in this field.
 - p. 14: Enrollment figures need to be refined. The annual cohort should be at least 5 full-time and 6 part-time students. Should there be a maximum of 6 new students a year?
- E. Rakow moved (2/C. Williams) that the proposal be approved, contingent upon the proposal being revised to address the points raised above: cognates, enrollment, retention, accreditation, basic assumptions, notes, and budget. The motion was carried by voice vote, with three abstentions.
- 370.4.2 Graduate Certificate in Local Government: Dr. E. French, a former city manager, introduced this proposed certificate. They will recruit locally, aiming at mid-career people like department heads and using the same minimum standards as the MPA program. Questions included: Transferring more than 6 hours to the masters: perhaps the certificate could be a first step toward the MPA? Where will funding come from? It was pointed out that memberships are not supported, so \$300 will be deleted from the budget. Publicity and

operation funds from the dean's office?

Enrollment: Need to accommodate carry-over students, though it is possible to finish in 1 semester of full-time study.

Are there time limits? Same as for the MPA (6 years).

R. Koch moved that the proposal be approved pending revisions to enrollment and budget. The motion was carried by voice vote with one abstention.

- 370.4.3 Graduate Certificate in Applied Lean Leadership (Engineering Technology) :
D. Hochstein, MSE, introduced the department's application for a new graduate certificate in this field of engineering management. Although the concept of Lean Leadership is very broadly applicable, other colleges had not been consulted. C. Langstraat moved (2/E. Rakow) that the proposal be tabled until the business and engineering technology faculty can confer. The motion was carried by voice vote.

- 370.4.4 IELTS Score and Its Comparability to the TOEFL: Lisa Goins distributed information on the IELTS, developed by the UK Council and used by some US institutions as a substitute for the TOEFL. An IELTS score of 9 is equivalent to a 6.5 TOEFL. It is heavily used in India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh; one faculty member here highly recommends it. Applicants must specify the academic version of IELTS; their website should be checked if it's on the report sent to the university. S. Slack moved (2/M. Logan) that the university accept the academic version of IELTS as an alternative to TOEFL. The motion was carried by voice vote.

During discussion a related issue—comparison of WES and other credentialing agencies—arose. The sole reliance on WES is cost prohibitive; can students be reimbursed in the first month's assistantship check? It is also a question of both verifying and authenticating foreign degrees. WES only verifies. Dr. Weddle-West asked members of the Council to begin thinking about ways to authenticate foreign degrees. This may be addressed at the next meeting.

- 370.4.5 Introduction of New Members of the Council: K. Nelson, out-going president of the Graduate Student Association introduced Aaron Peevyhouse, currently vice president of the GSA, who will take her place on the Council when he becomes president in the Fall.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nancy Hurley, MA, Recording Secretary.