

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL FOR GRADUATE STUDIES
AND RESEARCH**

MINUTES

4 March 2005

Meeting Number 354

Present: D. Arant (UColl), L. Bennett (CAS), S. Blanton (POLS, L. Bennett proxy), M. Butler (GSA), Linda Clemens (HSS), C. Danehower (FCBE), R. Koch (NURS), K. Kreitner (Music, M. Logan, proxy), D. Larsen (ESCI), J. Marchetta (MECH), S. Slack (BIOM), D. Wark (AUSP), B. Weltman-Aron (FLL)
Ex Officio: J. Brownlee (GS), K. Weddle-West (Assistant VPGS),

Absent: L. Brooks (MIS), M. Logan (CCFA), T. McInish (FIR), C. Purtle (ART), E. Rakow (COE), T.V. Sayger (CEPR); A Meyers (VPR)

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm.

- 354.1 K. Kreitner moved (2/ C. Danehower) that the minutes of Meeting No. 353, 4 February 2005, be approved. The motion was carried by voice vote.
- 354.2 Announcements
354.2.1 Documentation Ready for the SACS Visit. The documentation was described and members were asked to be available for possible visits from the SACS Review Team on Thursday morning, 21 April 2005
- 353.3 Old Business: There was no old business.
- 354.4 New Business
354.4.1 Policy in the Graduate Catalog Regarding Audit Courses: The problem of students taking a course for audit and then taking it for a grade was discussed. S. Slack moved (2/C. Danehower) that the catalog be revised to include audited courses in the limit on both the number of courses and the times that a course may be repeated and to include a statement that academic units may enforce more stringent requirements.
- 354.4.2 Second Failure of Comprehensive Exam Policy: There is a problem in keeping records of students who fail comprehensive exams. Allowing students to retake comps more than twice jeopardizes the university's accreditation. It is important for departments to keep better records and for the college directors to keep back-up files. Therefore, K. Kreitner moved (2/L. Bennett) that the form be routed through the department chairs and college directors and that space for their signatures be added to the form. The motion was

carried by voice vote. A discussion ensued as to whether termination referred to termination from the program or from the university and if the former, what constituted a program. It was decided informally to leave the catalog wording as is. In response to a question from the floor, K. Weddle-West said that the Graduate School sends termination notifications, but that the individual programs or colleges can do so as well.

- 354.4.3 Graduate Student Rights and Responsibilities: University Legal Counsel has looked at this document and made one suggestion: that the phrase “and all other university policies” be added to student responsibility h). During discussion it was also suggested that the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee be specified as well. Further discussion led to the revision of student right m) to read: “To petition for a change in advisor/major professor...” D. Larsen moved (2/D. Arant) that the statement be approved with the suggested revisions. The motion was carried by voice vote. There was further discussion as to the best method of dissemination of the statement; the GSA will post it on their website and departments/colleges should do so as well. It should also be sent to all Graduate Faculty.
- 354.4.4 Protocol for Submitting E-Dissertations (ETD’s): The technology for submitting e-dissertations is all in place and a committee is being formed to investigate ways to pay for them.
- 354.4.5 GRE Data: K. Weddle-West reminded council members how important it is not to discriminate against women and minorities by too heavy a reliance on GRE scores in recruitment. Institution and national data and ETS’s policy on the use of scores were distributed.
- 354.4.6 Master of Arts in Teaching Admissions Requirements: It is important to maintain quality in this program without cutting out women and minorities. Questions were raised about deviations, the basis for using GRE as a cutoff point, whether any predictive validity testing was undertaken, and whether a statement about possible exception should be included. L. Clemens is taking the Council’s concerns back to the department.
- 354.4.7 SACS Rejoinder Statement: Attention was drawn to the enclosed rejoinder, which was the only academic area in which the University was found to be in non-compliance. The document goes into much greater detail than the original compliance report and shows that the University is in compliance. See 354.2.1 for further information.
- 354.4.8 Proposal for Master of Public Health: This proposal was tabled until the April meeting.

C. Danehower moved (2/K. Kreitner) that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was carried by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nancy Hurley