

Executive Committee
Of the
Graduate Faculty Council

MINUTES
October 8, 2004
Whetten Graduate Center – Giolas Conference Room
1:00PM

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:15PM
2. It was moved, seconded and passed without dissent to approve as distributed the minutes of the 9/10/2004 meeting.
3. It was moved, seconded and passed without dissent to approve the Doctoral Plans of Student and Dissertation Proposals.
4. Brochure identifying the New Program for Doctoral Student Travel was reviewed and accepted with added disclaimer indicating travel funds pertain only to Storrs Plus Campus.
5. It was moved, seconded and passed without dissent to to approve the request to change the grading basis for Sociology 301 to satisfactory/unsatisfactory.
6. An Exchange Agreement between UConn and the Egyptian Cultural and Educational Bureau was discussed. The Memorandum of Understanding previously approved by GEC was acceptable to Reda Ammar. The Exchange Agreement was discussed by James Henkel and Reda Ammar extensively. Henkel brought the modified document to GEC. The GEC approved the document with slight modifications. Then Reda Ammar presented his points of disagreement. Further discussion occurred. Final conclusions were:

- Exchange graduate students must be registered student, even if for only 1 credit.
- UConn could be flexible and not charge tuition but charge IC. The VPRGE will then pay tuition for 1 credit/semester for each student with the IC.
- IC must be sufficient to cover the tuition.
- Postdocs could be included in the agreement, as Reda Ammar requested. The Egyptian government wants to pay students directly so they cannot be considered UConn employees. Dr. Henkel will speak to Donna Buxton Munroe to clarify the issue of postdocs not being either a student or an employee and will try to arrange a courtesy payroll title for this group.

A motion was made to approve the amended document (attached). It may be modified on one point by Dr. Henkel if a title for postdocs can be found so that they can be called either an employees or a student. It was moved, seconded and passed to accept the modified document with 3 in favor, 3 abstaining and 0 votes against.

7. GEC discussed the name change and reorganization for the Geological Sciences graduate program.
- There was concern that this proposal was not ready to be presented to the Board of Trustees.
 - It was agreed that although the Center might be called “Center for Integrated Geosciences”, the field of study should be Biogeosciences rather than Integrative Geosciences. GEC felt the program was not yet ‘integrated’.
 - GEC agreed that the graduate program should be developed in two phases – with the first field of study, Biogeosciences, for Phase I. At a later time, it would be acceptable to add another field of study, such as Geomorphology or Hydromorphology, or to redefine the initial graduate programs to be integrated.
 - The graduate program was too nebulous to be given final approval. So a review must occur in two years, i.e., before October, 2006.

Motion was made and approved to allow the Biogeosciences field of study to admit students immediately but a comprehensive review must be held by October 2006. All aspects of the program, including site, are to be reviewed.

Follow-up: Technically students will be admitted to the current geological sciences graduate field of study until the BOT and the Department of Higher Education approve the name change to Biogeosciences.

8. **Announcements**

Gregory Anderson provided an update on the University Senate meeting announcing the commencement would be held a week earlier than normal.

Janet Greger announced plans to hold a reception for PhD graduates prior to commencement.

Present: Gregory Anderson, Gary Clifford, David Cournoyer, David Herzberger, Jean Marsden, Erling Smith, Linda Strausbaugh, James Henkel and Janet Greger.

Regrets: Diane Lillo-Martin, Gerald Mazwell, Emilio Pagoulatos

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Broderick
Administrative Assistant