

Executive Committee
of the
Graduate Faculty Council

MINUTES

December 5, 2011
Whetten Graduate Center – Giolas Conference Room
3:00 PM

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 P.M. Associate Dean Carolyn A. Lin presided.
2. It was **moved**, seconded, and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote to approve as distributed the minutes of the meeting of November 2, 2011.
3. The group considered a proposal from the Department of Literatures, Cultures, and Languages to offer a new master's-level Area of Concentration to be called *Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies* under Field of Study *Literatures, Cultures, and Languages*. This program would lead to the conferral of the degree of Master of Arts (not to the Ph.D.). Rosa Chinchilla, Head of the Department of Literatures, Cultures, and Languages, spoke with members about the proposal and responded to questions. She noted that the program is designed primarily to serve secondary school teachers throughout New England. The only other program of this kind in Connecticut is at Yale, and that program is not open to students who do not plan to continue on for the doctoral degree.

Following discussion and Chinchilla's departure, it was **moved** (S. De Guise) and seconded (J. G. Clifford) to approve the proposal as presented. The motion **passed** without dissent on a voice vote.

4. Members considered and discussed a draft of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) received from the School of Engineering to create a "3+2" program between the University of Connecticut and the Xi'an Jiaotong University in China. C. Lin provided background information and noted that the proposed MOU is not yet complete in certain respects. The purpose of the discussion was to provide general feedback to the School of Engineering. In particular, it was noted that the MOU should be clear in terms of the non-degree aspect of the proposal and the potential benefits to UConn.

The draft MOU was tabled until a revised version is received from the School of Engineering.

5. There was discussion concerning graduate assistantships and internships. W. Abikoff noted that the IRS seeks greater clarity in distinguishing among the various types of assistantships, including the applicability of assistantship duties to students' degree programs. Further discussion will be needed to determine how best to address the matter.
6. There was discussion concerning the Academic Integrity Policy of the Graduate School. It was decided to have a detailed discussion at a future meeting to address potential areas of concern.
7. It was agreed to table agenda item #7, consideration of ways to recognize outstanding dissertations.
8. Members discussed a possible revision to the Dissertation Proposal coversheet in terms of the recording of approvals of the two external reviewers (i.e., those who are not members of the student's advisory committee).
9. It was decided not to call a meeting of the Graduate Faculty Council for December.
10. T. Peters agreed to send a letter on the Committee's behalf to Interim Dean Skip Lowe to convey members' best wishes.
11. Adjournment was at 5:10 PM.

Present: W. Abikoff, A. Albert, J. Barnes-Farrell, J. G. Clifford, S. De. Guise, C. Lin (*Associate Dean*), and T. Peters
(*Program Director*)

Speaker: Rosa Chinchilla, *Head of the Department of Literatures, Cultures, and Languages*

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas B. Peters
Program Director