

Executive Committee  
of the  
Graduate Faculty Council

**MINUTES**

September 7, 2005  
Whetten Graduate Center -- Giolas Conference Room  
3:00 P.M.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 P.M. Interim Vice Provost Gregory J. Anderson presided.
2. G. Anderson introduced Provost Peter Nicholls who spoke and responded to questions about many topics including:
  - The need to examine the University's policies
  - PTR procedures
  - The approval process for new curricular offerings
  - The need to examine the program review process
  - Organizational and structural issues within the University
  - College of Continuing Studies programs and offerings
  - The University's many centers
  - 21<sup>st</sup> Century UConn
  - Accommodating victims of Katrina this semester at UConn
  - International programs and international student services
3. It was **moved**, seconded, and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote to approve the minutes of the meeting of August 1, 2005.
4. It was **moved**, seconded, and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote to approve the list of Plans of Study and Dissertation Proposals.
5. A request from the Department of Psychology to eliminate the Area of Concentration of *General Experimental* was introduced for consideration. It was **moved** and seconded to approve the request. It was noted that students currently were enrolled in this Area of Concentration. It then was **moved to table** the matter until additional information can be obtained. The motion to table was seconded and it **passed** without dissent on a voice vote.
6. A proposal to implement a Graduate Certificate Program in Occupational Health Psychology was introduced for consideration, and it was **moved** and seconded to approve it.

J. Henkel noted that this would be a fifteen-credit program with a research component involving faculty at Storrs and at the Health Center. Ultimately, DHE approval would be needed. There was discussion about the proposed operation of the program. The intent is for students already matriculated in graduate degree programs to be the target audience for the proposed Certificate program. Questions were raised about the level of priority that would be given to Certificate students to register for certain courses and whether or not there would be any external admissions. J. Henkel agreed to obtain answers to these questions from the proposers. G. Maxwell noted that the endorsement of the graduate Programs Committee at the Health Center should be sought.

Noting that members have a generally favorable view of the proposal, it was **moved**, seconded, and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote **to table** the matter until the input noted above is available.

7. J. Henkel reported on efforts to date in terms of course renumbering. He explained the agenda attachment. Members discussed the page headed *Graduate Course Renumbering* in some detail. It was agreed that determinations should be made about special departmental and GRAD courses.

It was noted that careful coordination will be needed in the renumber of upper-division undergraduate courses to make certain that the courses that are intended to be appropriate for inclusion on graduate plans of study will be in the 4000 series.

It was **moved** and seconded to place the page headed *Graduate Course Renumbering* on a GFC agenda in the near future for a vote. Two **amendments were approved**: (1) to delete the phrase “. . . ordinarily open to doctoral student only” in the explanation of the 6000 level courses, and (2) to add an explanation that 4000 level courses are open to advanced upper-division undergraduate students and may also be taken by graduate students to be used on graduate plans of study. It further was agreed by consensus to remove the two sentences at the bottom of the page beginning with “Courses highlighted in Yellow . . .”. The motion as twice amended **passed** without dissent on a voice vote.

8. J. Henkel reported on the work of the Fellowship Task Force and distributed a sheet headed *External Fellowships Policies*. There was discussion about several current programs which provide support to graduate students. Recommendations for improvements were made. It was agreed that the group wishes to consider a proposal to recognize a student who does not measure up in terms of the usual metrics but has accomplished a great deal in a particular field of study.
9. It was agreed to call meetings of the Graduate Faculty Council for September 21, 2005 and October 19, 2005. The agenda for the September meeting will include reports by J. Henkel on the upcoming NRC survey, course renumbering, and on IT initiatives. The agenda for the October meeting will include a brief presentation and question-answer session with the Provost.
10. There was discussion about benchmarking data.
11. G. Anderson announced that the annual reception for new faculty will be held in the Graduate Center on September 28, 2005 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM and that a memorial service is to be held in the Alumni Center on September 10, 2005 for the late Hugh Clark, Associate Vice President Emeritus for Graduate Education and Research. It also was noted that memorial fund has been created in Clark’s name.
12. Adjournment was at 5:20 PM.

Present: J.G. Clifford, D. Cournoyer, D. Lillo-Martin, J. Marsden, E. Pagoulatos, E. Smith, L. Strausbaugh, G. Anderson (Interim Vice Provost), J. Henkel (Associate Vice Provost), G. Maxwell (Associate Dean), and T. Peters (Program Director)

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas B. Peters  
Program Director