

Executive Committee
of the
Graduate Faculty Council

MINUTES

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 P.M. Interim Dean Charles A. Lowe presided.
2. It was **moved**, seconded, and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote to approve as distributed the minutes of the meeting of September 7, 2011.
3. The group considered a proposal from the Neag School of Education to offer at the Avery Point Regional Campus the existing Master of Arts degree programs in *Curriculum and Instruction* and in *Special Education* as part of the Teacher Certification program for College Graduates (TCPCG). Yuhang Rong, Assistant Dean of the Neag School of Education, was present to discuss the proposal with members and to respond to questions.

Following discussion and Rong's departure, it was **moved** (J. G. Clifford) and seconded (W. Abikoff) to approve the proposal as presented. The motion **passed** without dissent on a voice vote. (A small number of minor typographical corrections in the text of the proposal were noted.)

4. The group considered a proposal from the School of Business which seeks approval for M.B.A. students to participate in international exchange programs that would involve the acceptance of up to 12 credits of course work taken at the participating university. C. Lin explained the proposal. Discussion ensued. Several concerns emerged:
 - Are the courses to be taken elsewhere by participating UConn M.B.A. students intended to be UConn courses?
 - How many courses taken elsewhere should the Graduate School accept in transfer?
 - Which university receives the tuition for any courses taken elsewhere by UConn M.B.A. students?
 - What would be the motivation for faculty at participating universities to accept UConn M.B.A. students in their courses?

W. Abikoff **moved to table** the matter until additional information is available. The motion to table was seconded (J. Barnes-Farrell), and it **passed** without dissent on a voice vote.

5. C. Lowe updated the group concerning the implementation of the software recently acquired from Hobsons. The software includes three major components: APPLY YOURSELF (application processing), CONNECT (recruitment), and RETAIN (alumni and development). He also noted that approval has been sought and granted to increase the Application Fee to apply online to \$75. The increase in this fee will support the acquisition of the software as well as ongoing tech support and staff training. General training sessions for key departmental and program personnel are planned for early November. In addition, the UConn Hobsons team will go to any unit to provide training (upon request).
6. C. Lin updated members concerning the Graduate School's hearing procedures for cases involving termination of graduate degree program status. Specifically, she noted the need to clarify the wording of the "Hearing and Appeal Procedures" section of the *Graduate Catalog* under *Standards and Degree Requirements*. Reference is made in that section to the right of the accused student to ". . . appeal the decision of the Associate Dean to the Dean." More appropriately, the section should state that the accused student may appeal the outcome of the hearing to the Dean. Members agreed to the clarification.
7. C. Lin updated members concerning several of the GRAD courses listed in the Graduate Catalog. In particular, she noted that concerns have arisen among the International Student Advisors concerning the continued use of the Graduate School's part-time and full-time Curricular Practical Training (CPT) courses (i.e., GRAD 5924 and GRAD 5925, respectively). Instead, it would be better to use modifications of GRAD 5930 -- *Full-Time Directed Studies (Master's Level)* and GRAD 6930 -- *Full-Time Directed Studies (Doctoral Level)* courses. The two CPT courses would be inactivated. In addition, Lin noted that it would be much simpler and much less confusing to have just one zero-credit continuous registration course for master's-level students and just one for doctoral-level students. Accordingly, the *Special Readings* courses (GRAD 5998 and GRAD 6998) as well as the *Thesis/Dissertation Preparation* courses (GRAD 5999 and GRAD 6999, respectively) would be consolidated to

form *GRAD 5998 -- Continuous Registration (Master's)* and *GRAD 6998 -- Continuous Registration (Doctoral)*, both zero credits. Members agreed to these modifications.

8. W. Abikoff updated members concerning Senate Executive Committee/GFC Executive Committee interactions. He noted that the Senate Executive Committee now has a graduate student member. Abikoff expressed willingness to continue to serve as the group's liaison with the Senate Executive Committee. Related matters were discussed.
9. It was agreed that the Graduate Faculty Council will not meet in October.
10. Adjournment was at 5:27 PM.

Present: W. Abikoff, A. Albert, J. Barnes-Farrell, M. Beasley, J. G. Clifford, C. Lowe (*Interim Dean*),
C. Lin (*Associate Dean*), B. Kream (*Associate Dean - Health Center*), and T. Peters (*Program Director*)

Speaker: Yuhang Rong, *Assistant Dean of the Neag School of Education*

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas B. Peters

Program Director