

Executive Committee
of the
Graduate Faculty Council

MINUTES

March 4, 2009
Whetten Graduate Center – Giolas Conference Room
3:00 PM

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:02 P.M. Vice President Suman Singha presided.
2. It was **moved**, seconded, and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote to approve as distributed the minutes of the meeting of February 4, 2009.
3. It was **moved**, seconded, and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote to approve the list of Plans of Study and Dissertation Proposals.
4. A request from the Department of Psychology to approve the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading option for PSYC 5600 -- *Research and Practice of Industrial/Organizational Psychology* and for PSYC 5699 -- *Research Team in Industrial/Organizational Psychology* was considered. Following brief discussion, it was **moved** (S. De Guise), seconded (W. Abikoff), and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote to approve the request.
5. A recommendation from the Department of Kinesiology was introduced and discussed. The recommendation is to change from Master of Arts to Master of Science the degree title for master's degree programs offered by the Department. Members agreed that the Area of Concentration of *Exercise Science* is appropriate for the Master of Science degree but were less certain about the appropriateness of *Sport Management*. It was agreed to request sample curricula for the two Concentrations before taking final action. Accordingly, it was **moved**, seconded, and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote **to table** the matter until the sample curricula are available.
6. A proposal received from the Department of Education Leadership to implement a Graduate Certificate Program in *Adult Learning* was introduced. The proposal will be considered at the April meeting.
7. A recommendation received from the Office of International Affairs to remove of the *African Studies* Area of Concentration from the *International Studies* Field of Study was considered. It was noted that there currently are neither faculty members nor students who are active in this Concentration. It was **moved** (J. G. Clifford), seconded (A. Albert), and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote to discontinue the *African Studies* Area of Concentration.
8. Matters of new business included discussion concerning the Outstanding Scholars program and the future status of the Graduate School. Concerning the latter, S. Singha noted that any decisions that are made need to be based on data. The matter is to be studied by a committee that is to be appointed by the President and the Provost. It was recommended that this committee include members from both the GFC Executive Committee and from the Research Advisory Council.
9. It was agreed that a meeting of the Graduate Faculty Council will not be called for March 18th.
10. Updates and announcements:
 - The Board of Trustees is to vote on tuition rates and fees for the coming academic year at its meeting scheduled for March 10th.
 - Graduate assistantship policy changes will preserve current flexibility to offer fractional assistantships (but with additional costs to departments and programs for fringe-benefit packages) and will involve discipline-specific stipend rate differentials beyond the 2009-2010 academic year.

- The membership of the task force to review graduate degree program offerings has been finalized and the Provost has given the group its charge, which involves determining primarily three tiers of degree programs – those programs which have achieved national standing, those which are likely to be able to achieve such standing with strategic reallocation of resources, and those which have experienced low levels of productivity in recent years.

11. Adjournment was at 4:46 PM.

Present: M. Aindow, W. Abikoff, A. Albert, J. Barnes-Farrell, J. G. Clifford, S. De Guise, J. Marsden, S. Singha (*Vice President*), J. Henkel (*Associate Vice Provost*), L. Klobutcher (*Associate Dean*), and T. Peters (*Program Director*)

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas B. Peters

Program Director