

GRADUATE SUB-MEET AND CONFER UNIT MEETING
October 15, 2007

NOTES

Members Present: Dr. John Alessio, Dr. John Banschbach, Dr. Maria Bevacqua, Dr. Anne Blackhurst, Robert Bothmann, Dr. Penny Herickhoff, Dr. Norma Krumwiede, Dr. Jerry Robicheau, Dr. Tim Secott, Chris Mickle

Notes:

The Notes of September 17, 2007 were approved.

Curriculum:

EXED 695 was approved

Agenda:

Graduate Faculty Policy

The following changes to the procedures for implementing the Graduate Faculty Policy were formally approved by the Graduate Sub Meet and Confer. Blackhurst will forward the changes to the FA Executive Committee and the Academic Affairs Council for review.

Teaching Effectiveness. The proposed language permits peer evaluation as *one possible* form of evidence rather than as required (effective in 2007-2008):

“Effective teaching ability is a necessary condition for approval to teach graduate-level courses. Applicants must submit evidence of teaching effectiveness from graduate courses (undergraduate course may be used if graduate courses have not been taught) taught in the four-year period prior to the initial application or the Review year.

Documentation should include one or more of the following: student evaluations, peer evaluations, departmental assignments, and, when appropriate, the Capstone experiences and dissertations supervised.”

Graduate Faculty Status for Probationary Faculty. The proposed language calls for negotiating Graduate Faculty Status at the point of hire (effective in 2007-2008):

“For probationary faculty, the appropriate level of Graduate Faculty Status, if any, will be negotiated during the hiring process in consultation with the hiring Department and Dean of the College. Probationary faculty who wish to apply for a status other than the status conferred at the point of hire may apply at any point in the probationary cycle. They will be re-evaluated during their tenure year regardless of the year of their initial approval so subsequent reviews may be coordinated with Professional Development Report review years.”

Application Deadline. The proposed language changes the application deadline from April 1 to October 1 (effective in 2008-2009):

“All nominations should be forwarded to the Graduate Dean no later than October 1st of the academic year. The graduate faculty rosters will be completed by the end of the first week of November. The Dean of the College of Graduate Studies and Research in consultation with the Graduate Sub Meet and Confer will approve or disapprove the rosters.”

MAGS Nominee

Secott announced that Vegard Aaland’s master’s thesis, *Exceptionalism in United States Foreign Policy Behavior*, was selected by the Graduate Sub Meet and Confer as the Minnesota State Mankato nominee for the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools (MAGS) Distinguished Thesis Competition. Dr. Jackie Vieceli was the thesis advisor. Dr. Abdalla Battah and Dr. Wayne Allen also served on the thesis committee.

Electronic Capstone Options

Krumwiede requested additional information and time to consult with CAHN faculty about the proposal. Secott agreed to add a half-hour presentation about Pro-Quest to the November 5, 2007 faculty meeting. The Graduate Sub Meet and Confer will make a formal recommendation at the November 19, 2007 meeting.

Shaded Grading Policy

The implications of optional vs. mandatory shaded grading policies were discussed. The drawbacks of potential inconsistencies in grading policies were considered—including the potential for reduced student satisfaction because of perceived unfairness. The pros and cons of shaded grading for graduate courses in particular were also discussed. The Faculty Committee will make a formal resolution at the November 5, 2007 meeting.

Capstone Supervision Proposal

The proposal to compensate graduate faculty for thesis and APP supervision was discussed and rejected at the statewide IFO level. It may be possible to implement the proposal at Minnesota State Mankato with a letter of understanding (LOA).

Graduate Studies Email Update

The MAGS nominee and the proposed procedural changes to the Graduate Faculty Policy will be included in the October Email Update from the College of Graduate Studies and Research.

Vision Statement for Graduate Education

Blackhurst will distribute the Appalachian State University Report on the Status of Graduate Education for consideration by the Graduate Sub Meet and Confer as a model for a similar process on our campus.

Future Agenda Items

Alessio requested that the Grad Sub Meet discuss the allocation of Graduate Assistantships campus wide. Questions for discussion include: How many G.A.s are there? Where are they assigned? What are their programs of study? How are they allocated? This topic will be on the November 19, 2007 agenda.

Approved By:

Anne E. Blackhurst, Interim Dean
College of Graduate Studies and Research

Tim Secott, Chair
Faculty Association Graduate Committee

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