UMR Graduate Faculty

Graduate Faculty Meeting
Minutes
May 1, 1995
Missouri Room, University Center East

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 PM in the Meramec Room of the University Center.

The minutes of the December 5, 1994 meeting were approved as distributed.

The chairman (Blum) reported on recent activities of the Graduate Council, disappointments, victories, and needs of the Graduate Faculty for the past year (see details attached). He also reported that minutes and other graduate faculty related information could be found on gopher or the world wide web (www).

He announced an upcoming discussion meeting that anyone may attend with Chancellor Park to be held on May 10. He also discussed the needs for a high level administrator to be responsible for research and graduate educational matters.

Graduate Degrees to be granted as published by the Registrar were approved subject to students finishing all requirements.

Reports by committees were as follows:

Membership - No changes in rules for Graduate Faculty or Doctoral Faculty membership were recommended (Metzner, chairman).

Curriculum - No report (Dharani, chairman).

Research Policy - A question was raised concerning whether research centers should be compensated for the fact that many non-regular faculty in those centers raise most of their own salaries. The subject will be further investigated by the committee (Blum, for the chairman).

Two changes in the rules for graduate study were approved as follows:

A. Delete the following:
"Any person not desiring a graduate degree or not eligible for admission as a regular graduate student may be considered for admission as a special graduate student."

and in its place put:
"Any person not desiring a graduate degree may be considered for admission as a non-degree graduate student. Any person not eligible for admission as a regular graduate student may be considered for admission as a special graduate student."

[As written the first rule mixes non-degree and special students. The new rule separates them, consistent with their well-defined status. This was approved by the Graduate Council.]
B. Delete the following:
"Subject to departmental approval, a maximum of nine hours of off-campus courses may be transferred to UMR for credit toward an M.S. degree. These nine hours may be courses from other institutions or UMR video courses offered simultaneously on-campus or any combination thereof. Exceptions to the above must be approved by the department seeking the exception and by the Curriculum Committee of the Graduate Faculty." [The Council felt that this rule needed to be rewritten relative to the new initiatives in video courses. Also if strictly enforced, it may invalidate some graduate credit at the St. Louis site. This motion was passed by the Graduate Council.]

Modification of the geographic constraints regarding the continuous registration of Ph.D. candidates so that on-campus students finished with their programs but not their dissertation could qualify was discussed, but no motion was made.

Officers for 1995-96 were elected as follows:

   President - Frank Blum
   Secretary - Gary Patterson

Under New Business, the following items were discussed:

   A. What measures could be taken to monitor how our graduate school ranks among others.
   B. What actions could be taken to gain representation for graduate studies and research on the Chancellor's Staff Group.

No motions were made relative to either subject.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Gary K. Patterson
Acting Secretary for S. Kapila

Addendum to UMR Graduate Faculty Meeting Minutes for May 1, 1995

Chair's Report (Blum)

A. Activities of the Graduate Council
DuBroff of electrical engineering participated in the meeting on facilitating student learning
Election of Research Policy Committee Members
Committee under Keyvan dealing with interdepartmental thesis supervision
The sponsored research fund distribution was explained
Voted to increase stipend X

B. Disappointments
The faculty activity reports were not revised, however Vice Chancellor Gajda said he will assign a committee to look at these. Little progress in reinstating summer student fellowships, faculty summer support or foreign travel support.

C. Victories
The Gradfac list is working well. Has 270 names and few complaints. The Chair of the Graduate Faculty was added to the Chancellor's Council and participated in the development of the strategic plan.

D. Needs
Graduate Home page, up to date information, rules. Stronger representation possibly with a part-time/full-time administrative position for research graduate education. Update Graduate Student Handbook and make available to G.S. Additional financial resources for research active faculty and students, more TA's summer support.

E. Minutes and other information on Gopher

F. Open meeting with Chancellor Park about research and graduate studies to be held on May 10. [note: this meeting was subsequently held and well attended.]