Graduate Council Meeting

29 September 2010

Present: J. Newkirk, M. Fitch, B. McMillin, D. Fociniti, R. Landers, V. Allada, G. Hilmas, Z. Yu, Y. Lin, M. Abdelsalam, K. Northcut, S.N. Balakrishnan, R. DuBois

President Newkirk reminded the assembly that the Graduate Council is the working arm of the Graduate Faculty, making recommendations to that faculty.

The Graduate Faculty Bylaws are in need of revision to reflect the name and dean change; the Grad Fac had decided to await completion of the associated changes in the Faculty Senate Bylaws before proceeding.

Graduate GPA calculation Referral on a motion by Prof. McMillin from Grad Fac on how GPA is calculated. There was unanimous support for the tabled motion that graduate GPA be calculated as stated in the Graduate Catalog, the 3.0 GPA is required in all grad classes and in all grad classes taken at S&T. Further discussion focused on the on the Form I. Prof. McMillin moved, second by Bala, that “Graduate GPA shall be calculated to exclude classes 200-level and below unless those courses are listed on the approved graduate plan of study.” Discussion focused on 200-level coursework used as prerequisites. VP Allada suggested an entry be made on the Form I with a deficiency list. The motion was defeated.

Prof. Bala moved, second McMillin, that “Form I and V be amended to list courses towards the graduate GPA toward graduation and separately list required courses not counted towards that GPA, and modify GPA requirements as listed: Plan of study; Deficiency/Prerequisite. “GPA requirements for graduate students” to exclude deficiency/prerequisite courses.”” Motion passed.

GRE Grad Fac two years ago sent authority to departments by motion such that a department may require the GRE of BS graduates from S&T, otherwise waived. Discussion noted the desire for high GRE scores as an institutional quality datum, that students tend to complain and perform poorly if required to take the GRE late in the grad program, and that the current system seems to work. No motions nor recommendations were made.

Stipend X Some programs have opined that having the cap can be a roadblock in student recruiting.

VP Allada shared that he will meet with the Provost and Chancellor and shared various ideas, including

1. Allow tuition inclusion in proposals
2. In-state fee waivers/reductions for graduate students
3. Offering 20-25 Graduate Office fellowships

Other ideas were asked for. Discussion on waiving tuition followed, with note that both many universities do and that S&T could if alternate revenue were found.

Next meeting 28 Oct at 1 pm in Ozark room of Heavener. New business for that meeting:

I-20 living costs – financial calculator used by our IA office seems to use high living costs for Rolla.

Graduate Learning outcomes

Graduate Faculty/Council input on a possible dissertation/thesis award – committee to ponder how to implement such awards.