

Minutes of the Graduate Faculty Meeting 5/2/05

The graduate faculty meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm. The first item of business was the approval of Spring 2005 graduate degree candidates. Michael L. Gregg was added to the list of graduate degree recipients in the Systems Engineering Certificate program. A motion was made and seconded to approve the list of graduate degree and certificate recipients. The motion passed unanimously.

The next item was the election of officers. Dick DuBroff was nominated and re-elected as the chairman of the graduate faculty. Joe Newkirk was nominated and re-elected as vice chairman of the graduate faculty.

The third item was consideration of graduate minors. The following motion was made:

“The graduate faculty approves the awarding of graduate minors together with graduate degrees. The requirements for a graduate minor would be determined by the minor granting department and would be noted on the graduate transcript. Program of study forms will be revised to accommodate the designation of minors and the designation of one or more committee members from the minor granting department. Each minor would have to be approved through the curriculum approval process.”

The following points were brought out in the discussion and are noted here in case of future questions regarding the intentions of the graduate faculty. The intention of the first sentence is that a minor can only be recognized if it is part of a graduate degree program. A graduate minor can not be awarded separately from a graduate degree. It was also understood that taking a graduate minor might increase the number of credit hours required for a graduate degree above the minimum levels currently determined by the departments and consistent with the requirements shown in the graduate catalog. The purpose of the last sentence was to ensure that each minor goes through the standard academic council approval process currently used for accepting new courses and new programs.

The question was called and the resolution for awarding graduate minors was approved. The graduate faculty chairman will work with the Registrar's office to make suitable revisions on the programs of study and possible modifications in the graduate catalog.

The final item concerned changes to the residency requirements that would enable a distance PhD program. The following motion was introduced and seconded:

“The following will appear as a subsection after Shared Doctoral Programs section in the Graduate Catalog.

1. The qualifying exam must be taken on UMR campus and passed by the end of the second semester after completion of the M.S. degree.
2. The student's advisor must be a UMR graduate faculty; however, the student may be co-advised by an individual from the student's professional work location, provided the

individual has a Ph. D. degree and be familiar with the chosen research area of the student.

3. The student will meet with his/her advisory committee on a regular basis as established by the advisory committee through campus visits or videoconferences with a minimum of two meetings each academic semester and one meeting each summer session.

4. Graduate course work may be taken on UMR campus or via distance learning with the expectation that the student will take classes synchronously with on-campus class sessions and participate in class activities within the limitations of the communication technology available in the classroom and at the student's work location.

5. The doctoral comprehensive and final dissertation examinations must be taken on UMR campus.

6. The student will normally spend one week each academic semester on UMR campus, interacting with faculty and other students, attending and/or presenting seminars, and engaging in other academic activities.”

After some discussion, the motion was modified to replace item 1 with the following requirement:

“1. The qualifying exam must be taken on UMR campus and passed within the first two semesters of the PhD program.”

The question was called and the outcome of the vote was 10 in favor and 11 opposed.

The graduate faculty meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard E. DuBroff
Chairman of the Graduate Faculty.
5/3/05