

Minutes of the Graduate Council Meeting, October 6, 1998

The meeting was called to order by Chair Don Madison at 3:03 in the Missouri Room.

The Chair announced makeup of committees under the Graduate Faculty (see Web)

The Chair announced the existence of new templates for theses and dissertations in MS Word and Latex.

The Chair announced that the new Rules and Regulations for graduate study will be distributed on the Web before the next Graduate Faculty meeting, where they will be presented for final approval.

A discussion was held concerning foreign graduate students entering UMR with an I-20 immigration form obtained through UMR, then transferring to another university with a second I-20 before or during their first semester here. The following observations were made:

1. Other universities usually accept transferring students.
2. The students must be re-instated to the new university, which costs them a fee.
3. So far our vice-chancellor has not contacted other universities that have accepted such early transfers, because such protests may not be effective. The second university does not know about UMR until the student arrives there and asks for the transfer.

Al Crosbie moved to recommend that students not be released for transfer until after one semester of attendance at UMR and approval has been given by the department of enrollment and UMR not accept transfers for students not released and not having already attended another university. The motion was seconded by Lokesh Dharani. Vice-Chancellor Walt Gajda asked if a code of conduct for entering foreign graduate students already exists. No one knew. The motion passed.

The cost of living for foreign students as indicated for I-20 approval was questioned. Robert Whites stated that the cost was determined based on a standard format for universities. Ed Hale stated that he believes that many students live cheaper than the estimates show. Walt Gajda will look into a lower estimate for living costs for the I-20 approval process.

A discussion was held regarding the 9-6 Rule for graduate student enrollment which applies to those on a one-quarter time or more assistantship. The rule states that such graduate students must enroll for at least nine credit hours but pay for only the first six. However, the students must still pay for all supplemental fees. Al Crosbie moved and Lokesh Dharani seconded that all supplemental fees above those applicable to six hours be removed. The motion passed. Walt Gajda mentioned that such a change may require approval by the president of the university system.

The meeting adjourned at 4:36 pm.