

Graduate Council Meeting
Minutes
November 11, 1994
University Center East

The meeting was called to order by chairman Professor F. Blum.

All members present were introduced.

Attendees: Profs. N. Anderson, F. Blum, R. Bryant, A. Crosbie, O. Crosser (substitute for R. Reed), L. Dharani, R. DuBroff, D. Hammerlee, S. Kapila, S. Keyvan, J. Newkirk, Y. Omurtag (substitute for H. Metzner), L. Rahaman, J. Switzer and R. Wilkerson. Ex-officio members in attendance were: Profs. G. Patterson and N. Tsoulfanidis; Roberta Cox and Vicki Gibbons.

Prof. Blum emphasized that all graduate faculty correspondence would be done through the e-mail. An e-mail address for gradfac@umr.edu has been set up. Members were encouraged to correspond through this media. An agenda for the meeting was distributed to each attendee and items were discussed in the following order.

1. Assignment of subcommittee for graduate and doctoral faculty. Prof. Metzner (Engineering Management) was elected to head the subcommittee. Prof. Keyvan volunteered to serve on the committee. The subcommittee is charged to review applicants for graduate and doctoral faculty. A motion to adopt a 5-year term for both the graduate and doctoral faculty was carried. (Subsequently, Prof. J. Carstens was added to the committee.) This item will require approval of graduate faculty.

A question was raised concerning admittance to graduate and doctoral faculty of faculty members returning from administrative assignment. It was felt that, since membership to graduate faculty is open to practically all faculty, this would probably be automatic for returning administrators. However, membership to the doctoral faculty will require the faculty member to meet specific standards.

2. Should non-faculty (e.g., graduate students) have authority to teach graduate courses? Chair clarified that question pertained to long-term teaching assignments for 300 and 400 level courses. A motion to restrict graduate students from teaching 300 and 400 level courses was made. Motion was carried.

3. Dr. Parry's concern on registration of graduate students who have been off a quarter (graduate students who do not continuously enroll; i.e., miss enrollment for a semester or more, excluding summer) will need to have their graduate status "refreshed" by the Registrar's Office. Applications for this purpose can be obtained from the Registrar's Office. If the returning student has academic deficiencies or requests a change in the major, the Registrar will refer the file to the Department and the Dean for appropriate action. If the student meets the academic standards for a regular graduate student, this "refreshment" (renewal of eligibility to register) would be automatic if the student had regular status as a graduate student in the past 6 years.) Following the discussion, it was clarified that concern related to graduate students who are meeting

departmental requirements. A case in point would be students who leave before their dissertation de-fense. A motion to recommend an automatic re-enrollment of eligible returning gradu-ate students was made and carried.

4. New graduate rules in the College of Engineering. A motion was made to affirm the College of Engineering's right to make graduation requirements more restrictive than the campus-wide requirements. The motion was carried.

5. Can non-thesis MS students have some research count towards their MS degree? Establish new courses for non-thesis research. Must have acceptable written report filed with the supervisor. Counts as part of four hours of other stuff. Prof. Patterson pointed out that 400 has traditionally been used for this purpose. Roberta Cox questioned whether hours taken as 490 count towards non-thesis degree. It was clarified that the first part of the item is addressed by course 400. Credit hours for 490 should not count towards a non-thesis degree.

6. Recommendation that Graduate Council have a representative on the Chancellor's Council. As the only viable campus-wide body for graduate education, the graduate council should be represented on the Chancellor's Council. A motion to recommend that Chair (or a substitute) should be the representative of the Graduate Council was made and carried.

7. Recommend that the campus put faculty activity reports on computer and collect them from the departments in digital form including a list of publications that can be put on the campus gopher. Chair recommended that departments provide faculty activity reports in some uniform electronic format to Mike McKean's office in Technical Editing. Following a discussion, a motion to recommend that departments provide research-related activities (proposals submitted, proposals granted, publications and presentations) to Technical Editing was made and carried.

8. Graduate activities on annual report; e.g., theses supervised. Chair pointed out that the present format of the faculty activity reports does not include activities in graduate education, especially thesis and dissertation research supervision. A motion to recommend an inclusion of graduate activities, especially theses supervised, in the faculty activity report was made and carried.

9. Funding for graduate programs. During reorganization of campus administration and elimination of graduate dean's position, funds previously available for partial support of graduate students and faculty were lost. A motion to recommend restoration of funds for summer session stipends for graduate students on a TA during the academic year was made and carried.

10. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

S. Kapila, Secretary, Graduate Faculty

Note: These minutes were approved by the Graduate Council on 2/23/95.