

**Graduate Council Meeting  
13 November 2012**

Present: J. Newkirk, V. Allada, L. Costoplos, S. Matson, C. Wilson, V. Hudgins, F. Montgomery, S.N. Balakrishnan, Y. Lin, J. Winiarz, C. Mendoza, S. Corns (for Cudney and Dagli), C. Claybaugh (for Yu), P. Worsey, R. Landers, H. K. Lee, B. Bai, R. Dubois, M. Trish, R. Weaver, M. Fitch

**1) October 16th Meeting Minutes** – Motion to approve: Landers, Seconded: Montgomery. Voted, approved.

**2) Tabled item from 16 October 2012 meeting on double counting courses for multiple certificates.**

Discussion included:

- Protecting the integrity of the meaning of a certificate. May not be done by double counting courses without limits. (Newkirk)
- Already has a safeguard in place in Engineering Management & Systems Engineering- must do a substitution. (Cudney)

Motion: The Graduate Council recommends to the Graduate Council that “No course can be counted towards more than one graduate certificate” - Approved 5-2 in favor (Motion: Landers, Seconded: Worsey)

**3) Tabled item from 30 April 2012 Graduate Faculty meeting, motion on hold options (preventing public access/publication) for Grad Forms 2 & 7 returned to GFC for further thought and input.**

Library representatives noted that almost 200 thesis and dissertations are in a hold status currently and indefinitely. Motion: The Library and VP Grad Studies develop a rule suited to S&T’s purposes. - Approved (Motion: Newkirk, Seconded: Worsey)

**4) Carried over item from 16 October 2012 meeting: English proficiency requirement.**

Vice Provost Allada explained the process (see appended slides). The TOEFL is not required for students coming from English-speaking countries, a list of which may be found on the TOEFL website.

**5) Rights of faculty on use of thesis/dissertation defense rubric forms.**

Prof. Worsey expressed concern about the rubric used to evaluate the graduate students (specifically in Mining but other departments may have similar rubrics). The concern is that the appearance of grading an individual may be accessible via sunshine law request and the individual could file a lawsuit against the faculty member(s). Prof. Worsey suggested the rubric might be optional and suggested UM Legal be consulted.

VPGS shared that the rubrics are developed by each department and provides information for assessing graduate students as required by NCA four our accreditation.

Prof. Worsey and VP Allada intend to meet with UM Legal about this issue.

Meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

## English Proficiency Requirements

Refer to Page 13 of the Graduate Catalog

### Minimum Criteria

- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) → 550/79

OR

- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) → 6.5

OR

- Intensive English Program (IEP) → Satisfactory completion

