

Minutes
Commission on Graduate Studies & Policies
October 6, 2010
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Graduate School Conference Room

Present: Dr. Tom Caceci, Ms. Kim Carlson, Dr. Carolyn Copenheaver, Ms. Keyana Ellis, Dr. Tom Grizzard via videoconference, Dr. Mark Halsey, Dr. Sam Hicks, Dr. Eileen Hitchingham, Dr. Jennifer Hodgson, Dr. Karen Hult, Katie McKee, Mr. Jonathan Moore, Dr. Aaron Purcell, Dr. Susan Short, Dr. Victoria Soghomonian, Ms. Hannah Parks, Dr. Robin Panneton, Dr. Kerry Redican Mr. Eric Williams

Absent with Notification: Dr. Kumar Mallikarjunan, Mr. Tom Martin

Absent without Notification: Dr. Cheng Lu, Dr. Patrick Miller

Visitors and Invited Guests: Ms. Ennis McCrery, Mr. Deepu George, Ms. Jacqueline Nottingham, Dr. Janet Rankin

Dr. Carolyn Copenheaver, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Approval of the agenda: Approved.

Approval of the minutes from September 15th, 2010: Approved with corrections to attendance: The minutes will reflect that Dr. Halsey was present, and Dr. Grizzard was absent at the September 15th meeting.

Committee Reports

Graduate Curriculum Committee (GCC): Minutes from the September 9th meeting were approved. [Note: Minutes from the September 23rd meeting were approved electronically on October 8, 2010.]

Graduate Student Appeals: No report.

Graduate Student Relations: No report.

DRSCAP: Dr. Tom Grizzard reported that the Graduate Student Relations committee was already working on the issue of “bullying”. Dr. DePauw noted that when the GSR committee reported on their findings, some of the recommendations would be referred to DRSCAP.

Other Reports

Graduate Student Assembly (GSA):

Mr. Jonathon Moore reported that at the last meeting Iranian students described the difficulty they were experiencing when re-entering the United States. The students are enlisting the aid of a congressman, and have also asked the GSA to endorse their written statement of support. The discussion broadened to include international students at large who face similar situations. Part of the discussion revealed that there is a national student effort to address the problem of barriers to re-entry. The GSA endorsed the written statement.

Mr. Moore described the fees forum with panelists Dwight Shelton, Tim Hodge, Ed Spencer, Rick Ferrero and Karen DePauw, and attended by over 130 students. The panelists explained the fee structure, sources of funds, and restrictions on expenditures. The conversation was helpful to the representatives from the budget office as it gave them more background information to present to Capital Hill. The conversation continued at a graduate student lunch with the president the following day.

The GSA voted to approve their budget.

Graduate Honor System (GHS): No report.

University Library Committee (ULC): Dr. Hitchingham reported that the minutes from the last meeting had not been approved yet. She did announce that the “study” portion of the Graduate Study Café was operational, and they are getting close to the “Café” piece. Special Collections was experiencing an increase in traffic due to the proximity of the Study Café.

University Council: Dr. Redican reported that there was little to report from the recent meeting. An undergraduate degree was discontinued.

Old Business:

Inclusion of Ethics in Graduate Education: Dr. DePauw explained why she was bringing the issue before the commission for discussion, in particular how it related to graduate students, and the initiative *Responsible Conduct in Research* (RCR). NSF and NIH [students only] now require faculty and graduate students to take a course or be certified in ethics as they become principle investigators. Dr. DePauw asked the commission to address how best we can, as a university, make sure we have the basic understanding of ethics and scholarly research integrated within the graduate curriculum. Following discussion, the consensus was that multiple approaches should be available to students, including refresher courses available to students as needed. The issue was turned over to DRSCAP for further discussion.

New Business:

- *NRC Study*: Dr. DePauw updated the commission on the National Research Council Report.
- *Ways to gather graduate student opinion*: Ms. Kenya Ellis asked the commission’s assistance in developing a list of ways in which graduate student opinions can be surveyed. Dr. DePauw described routine surveys currently in use at the Graduate School. Following discussion, the issue was assigned to the Graduate Relations Committee.
- *Resolution: Discontinuation of EdD, PhD, and EdS in Administration and Supervision of Special Education*. Approved with one reading.
- *MBA and Master’s of Industrial Systems Engineering, collaborative degree*: Dr. DePauw explained that because this is not a new degree, but rather combined degrees, the proposal does not need to pass through governance. She has asked programs to send combined degrees through the commission for a review process so that it is vetted at the Graduate Curriculum Committee and the commission. The degree proposal will appear on the next commission meeting agenda for a second reading to allow time for formatting corrections.
- *Redundancy of graduate courses*: Dr. DePauw asked the commission to review areas in which there appear to be *unnecessary* duplication of courses, specifically in the areas of ethics and statistics. The issue was assigned to DRSCAP for further investigation.

Announcements:

- DRSCAP meets tomorrow at 10:00 am.
- November 4th is Graduate Homecoming.
- The Graduate Life Center will celebrate its 5 year anniversary on November 5th, and also mark the 75th anniversary of Alumni Hall, currently housing the Graduate School and graduate residences.
- The Graduate Fair was a success.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Ms. Nancy B. Feuerbach, on behalf of
Dr. Karen P. DePauw, Vice President and Dean for Graduate Education