

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK
Graduate Council Minutes
April 14, 2010

Members Present: Bauer, Bhattacharyya, Dearman, Gann, Gentry, Hunter, Jennings, Kays, Kuralt, McAlpine, Mirivel, Moak, Nolen, Pierce, Swingen, Wood

Members Absent: Cantrell, Lindeman, Robison, Seigar, Sweeney, Turturro

Others Present: Pellicane, Miller-Lewis, Brooks

Meeting started 3:00 p.m.

March 31, 2010, minutes approved

Report of Curriculum Committee:

Donaghey College of Engineering & Information Technology

(10-1131) IFSC 7321 Information Science: Principles and Theory

New Course (*approved*)

(10-1132) IFSC 7101 Research Methodology

New Course (*approved*)

(10-1133) IFSC 7102 Research Tools

New Course (*approved*)

(10-1134) IFSC 7103 Research Applications

New Course (*approved*)

(10-1135) IFSC 7100 Independent Study

New Course (*approved*)

(10-1136) CPSC 7100 Independent Study

New Course (*approved*)

(10-1137) SYEN 7100 Independent Study

New Course (*approved*)

(10-1138) ASCI 7317 Nanostructural Materials: Physical & Chemical Properties

New Course (*tabled*)

Report of Personnel Committee:

Craig A. Cooney, PhD Assistant Professor

Affiliate (*approved*)

Brett A. Powell, EdD Vice President for Admin. & Finance/OBU

Affiliate (*approved*)

Dr. Hunter stated that the personnel committee will do a survey next year to see what kinds of graduate faculty responsibilities faculty across campus have in terms of teaching and thesis or dissertation supervision. The subcommittee will collect its recommendations for changes to faculty status and faculty review and present them in a question format before several bodies early next year (Faculty Senate and graduate coordinators, for example). This feedback, along with the survey, will help them craft the final policy recommendation. Dr. Jennings suggested that Dr. Hunter make a report at Faculty Senate on Friday [SFJ]: which she did].

Old Business:

Dissertation Responsibilities

Dr. Bhattacharyya stated that a draft document describing the duties of graduate students and their committee members went out a few weeks ago to the Provost and Deans. Expecting to get feedback from them shortly, this document will go on the Grad Council meeting agenda next time for approval.

Associate Dean's Report:

Dr. Lewis reminded council members of May 7th deadline for thesis and dissertations submissions by 5:00. Deadline for summer is August 1st.

Dean's Report:Future of the Graduate Research Forum

Dr. Pellicane stated that the graduate student research forum was canceled because of low numbers. He wants to make the expo a combined effort between graduate and undergraduate students. Dr. Pellicane invited everyone to the undergraduate expo on April 26 from 10am-1pm. Dr. Lewis stated that posters are not the norm across all disciplines; Dr. Hunter concurred. Also she thinks that there should be a workshop on how to show students what to put on a poster board. Dr. Pellicane said that could be arranged because he would like to see more participation next year.

New Business:Graduate Policies

The Council reviewed existing graduate policies prior to them being posted under new university policies section on UALR website:

Tuition Rates for Grad Students Enrolled in UG Courses

Dr. Jennings stated that students taking undergraduate classes for deficiencies or personnel reasons will be charged the graduate rate. If they have been advised to take it for their degree, then the student can contact the graduate office to arrange for the undergraduate rate.

Graduate Assistantships

Dr. Dearman stated that his intention was not to suggest policies, but make suggestions on how we could improve ours. He suggested that we add a language about number of years a student can have an assistantship, a statement that students are responsible for fees, and responsibilities concerning tuition reimbursements.

Graduate School Admissions

Dr. Nolen reviewed graduate admissions practices. Dr. Lewis stated that conditional admittance should rarely be used. Dr. Bhattacharyya stated that he needed examples of when to use conditional admittance.

Graduate School Academic Policies and Procedures

Dr. Lewis stated classes for transfer of credit should not be more than five years old and that no "C" can transfer. Dr. Wood asked if students can retake courses; Dr. Lewis replied yes, but both grades will count. Dr. Lewis stated that, if possible, try not to use "I" for students who don't get the best grade possible for incomplete work; she suggested that students be given a grade representing current completed work, then once the student finishes, then his/her grade may be changed.

*Graduate School International Student Admissions (Bhattacharyya; tabled)**Graduate School Short-Term, Off-Campus, and Distance Ed Courses (Pierce; tabled)**Graduate Special Topics Courses (Kural; tabled)*

Adjourned 4:20p.m.