

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK
Graduate Council Minutes
September 23, 2009

Members Present: Hunter, Kuralt, Dearman, Geissler (Alt-COB), Cantrell, Nolen, Wood, Bhattacharyya, Jennings, Pierce, James, Gentry, Mirivel, Moak (Alt-CPS), Turturro, Seigar, Kays

Members Absent: McAlpine, Syler, Robison

Others Present: Pellicane, Lewis, Shelton; Angela Sewall, Richard Ford

Approval of September 9, 2009 minutes *Approved*

Old Business: *none*

New Business:

- **NCATE Assessment and Evaluation**

Dean Angela Sewall provided information on the upcoming NCATE assessment and evaluation, November 14-18, 2009. She briefly explained the assessment/evaluation process, pointed out that the ADHE process performs some assessments, and she noted that every program must be approved at the state or federal level. All 27 programs in the College of Education are nationally recognized. Dr. Sewall stressed that the stakes are high: if a program is not recognized, funding for it will be withdrawn. Program viability is determined by the number of graduates in the program, therefore the Graduate Council needs to be judicious regarding the approval of new programs. She distributed materials relevant to the discussion, including a summary of the 6 NCATE Unit Standards Rubrics, a list of acronyms commonly used on this campus, a conceptual framework document, a comprehensive plan, an assessment handbook, and an institutional report. An electronic version of the institutional plan is available which contains over 700 links. For an electronic copy, email Dr. Sewall at amsewall@ualr.edu. **Important note: please do not share either form of this document with other institutions.**

Dr. Sewall also noted that NCATE will visit with all constituencies across campus, including Graduate Council.

- **Faculty Senate/Graduate Council Relationship**

Dr. Richard Ford discussed the relationship between the Faculty Senate and the Graduate Council. He began by noting that the Provost's Office bears most of the responsibility for program review, and the Graduate Council can have as much responsibility in that process as it chooses. The responsibility given to faculty goes to the Faculty Senate, which is then broken up into other groups. For practical purposes all routine business should be taken care of by Graduate Council unless it rises to the higher level.

Dr. Ford noted that there have been administrative problems in the past regarding the way Graduate Council and Undergraduate Council distribute information to faculty. A solution for the notification process is being addressed, and Dr. Ford suggested that the Office of Communications might be involved in the process. He also noted that the Provost keeps a list of all faculty (updated every night) which might also be used.

Other Business:

Graduate Council committee assignments are still being finalized. College of Business needs one more representative; the College of Science and Math needs three. There is one student representative, and the council is taking nominations for two more.

Associate Dean's Report:

Dean Lewis reported that since summer graduation is over, there needs to be a discussion about recurring problems with the process.

Dean's Report:

Dean Pellicane reported that he is staying very busy with compliance issues.

Adjourned at 4:17 p.m.