Minutes
Graduate Council

Number: 3
Date: October 24, 2003


Absent: J. Boyle, S. Bridges, F. Coleman, L. D’Abramo, G. Dunaway, E. Milam, J. Pote, L. Reinschmiedt, D. Wise, D. Wolfe

1. Dr. Tom Hosie, Chair of the Graduate Council, called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. in Room 611 Allen.

2. On motion by Dr. Larry Barrow and second by Dr. Chinling Wang, the Council approved the September 26, 2003 minutes with minor editorial corrections.

3. Report from university Committee on Courses and Curricula (UCCC).

   The following programs were approved for deletion or modification.

   Master of Agriculture in Agricultural Pest Management – Delete Program
   Master of Science in Biochemistry – Modify Program
   Master of Science in Entomology – Modify Program
   Master of Science in Plant Pathology – Delete Program
   Ph.D. in Degree in Entomology – Modify Program
   Ph.D. in Molecular Biology – Modify Program
   Ph.D. in Plant Pathology – Delete Program

4. Report from Graduate Studies.

   a. Dr. William A. Person reported a total of five SREB Fellows at MSU this year: Shurunda Thrower, Sociology; April Butler, Computer Science and Engineering; Frances Chevonne Thomas, Computer Science and Engineering; Barbara Patrick, Public Policy and Administration; LaShonda Stewart, Public Policy and Administration. They will be attending the Annual Doctoral Scholars Institute on Teaching and Mentoring on October 30 through November 2, 2003, in Miami, FL. In conjunction with SREB, Dr. Person thanked departments that sent recruitment materials for distribution. Dr. Gloria Thomas, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, and Dr. Teresa Taylor, Assistant Professor of Communication, will be in charge of our recruitment table. Upon return, information cards will be sent to the appropriate departments. We expect 600 to 700 participants in the Institute.
b. We are in the process of completing GAANN proposals in Mathematics and Statistics, Physics, Computer Science and Engineering, and Civil Engineering: The proposals will be electronically submitted to the U. S. Department of Education by November 7, 2003.

c. The Graduate Council Subcommittee on Academic Status Appeal for a student in the College of Education has concluded its deliberations and submitted a report to Dean Roy Ruby. We extend special thanks to Dr. Shivaji (Chair) and Drs. John Boyle and Barbara Spencer for completing this task.

5. Report from Graduate Student Association

a. Kori Brabham, President, GSA, gave the Graduate Student Association Report. The GSA had its second meeting October 14, 2003. Laura Walling, Recreational Sports, guest speaker, gave an overview of the Sanderson Center. Topics discussed were the Research Symposium, GSA Halloween Carnival and the Christmas Program.

b. Next meeting will be November 9, 2003.

6. Old Business

a. Dr. Sylvia Byrd reported the Subcommittee on Multiple Applications met to discuss changing the current way students are charged for dual applications. Two areas identified were the current fee process for dual applications made during the academic calendar year and develop a form requiring the signature of major professor and graduate coordinator be sent with application

7. New Business

a. Introduced by Dr. Person as an item of New Business, the Council discussed graduate students who complete their programs of study with \( \geq 3.0 \) GPA but < 3.0 on overall GPA. This occurs when students change programs and use some of the courses (with grades of A and B) from their previous programs but do not use other courses (with grades of C or below).

Although the Council reviewed departments “allowing students to use courses taken prior to being admitted to the degree program and excluding other courses from the graduation GPA that were taken before admission to the current program” at the October 25, 2002, meeting, the issue required additional clarification. Dr. Rent reiterated that a student must have a 3.0 GPA on all graduate courses taken after being admitted to the degree program.

Ms. Rita Burrell will draft modifications to the Bulletin to reflect this policy.

As currently implemented, the Banner System denotes “Grad Not Good Standing” on the transcripts of students who graduate with a 3.00 or better program GPA, but do not have an overall GPA of 3.00. Dr. Hosie will discuss “Grad Not Good
Standing” being denoted on student transcripts with Mr. Butch Stokes, University Registrar.

b. Mr. Phil Bonfanti reported an average of 300 new graduate students have enrolled in the spring semester for the last two years. Fifty to 60 have been international, with the remainder being domestic students.

c. There is interest in a Spring TA Workshop. Additional resources would be needed to implement the workshop.

d. Dr. Leslie Bauman requested the Council address the SACS Response Report in reference to the monitoring, placement and performance of graduate students.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm