Graduate Council

Number: 4
Date: November 21, 2003


1. Dr. Tom Hosie, Chair of the Graduate Council, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in Room 611 Allen.

2. On motion by Dr. John Boyle and second by Dr. Dwayne Wise, the Council approved the October 24, 2003 minutes with minor editorial corrections. (Item 7a, paragraph 3).

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

   The following program was approved for modification.
   Ph.D-Applied Cognitive Science – The department proposed to remove the requirement that students complete 24 hours of specialized coursework in cognitive science, and add the requirement that students complete 21 hours of dissertation research.


   a. Dr. William A. Person reported five GAANN proposals were submitted to the U. S. Department of Education on November 7, 2003, in Mathematics and Statistics, Engineering Physics, Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Civil Engineering and Computational Engineering. If funded, students would receive $27,500 per year for three years with an institutional allowance of $11,560. The total number of GAANN Fellowships requested was 26. The announcements of awards will be made in March 2004.

   b. Annual AGEM Symposium postcard distributed to Council members. Date will be January 22 – 24, 2004, at the University of Mississippi in Oxford, MS. Mississippi State University hosted the program in 2003 and would like to contribute to that success at the University of Mississippi.

   c. A total of 341 graduate students have applied for Graduation in December as follows: 276 for the Masters degree; five for Educational Specialist; and 58 for the Doctorate.

   d. Dr. Person gave the Council an update on OGS staff member Ms. Cathy Sides. Ms. Sides had two aneurysms. She is making very good progress and expects to return to work January 15, 2004.
This spring OGS will hold a new Graduate Student Orientation in conjunction with Dr. Phil Bonfanti in the Office of International Services, January 7, 2004, beginning at 1:30 p.m. We will hold a welcome reception for students and families after orientation, with dinner at 5:00 p.m. in the Union Ballroom.

5. Report from Graduate Student Association

a. Dr. Person gave the report for the Graduate Student Association. Dr. Luther Epting, Career Services, was guest speaker for the GSA November meeting. The GSA will participate in the Annual Salvation Army Stocking Stuffer Project by taking donations of toys for age group 3-12, with a deadline for donations of December 1, 2003.

b. Next meeting will be December 2, 2003.

6. Report from Subcommittee on Multiple Applications
   (Drs. Bridges, Byrd, Wise)

a. Dr. Hosie called on the Sub-Committee on Multiple Applications. Dr. Dwayne Wise gave the report. It was concluded from data presented by Ms. Diane Wolfe that the problem is almost entirely limited to international students. The subcommittee proposed an application fee of $25 per application be levied, over and above the two active applications. Current policy states that two applications are allowed for a one-year period with the $25 charge.

   A second issue was identified: some students are dually enrolled without the knowledge and/or approval of one or both of the graduate coordinators. It was proposed that any dually enrolled student must obtain written approval from the graduate coordinator and the major professor in each of the programs in which he/she wishes to enroll. The responsibility to obtain this permission would be placed on the student, and dual enrollment would be denied until this written permission is presented to the Office of Admissions.

   Discussion followed on the validity of the problem, how the changes will be processed, and on the period an application is active.

   On motion by Dr. Ratnasingham Shivaji and seconded by Dr. Edward Milam, a majority of the Council voted to accept the subcommittee recommendation to charge $25 per graduate application for each application submitted to the Office of Admissions for applications above two, per academic year.

7. Old Business

a. Spring Teaching Assistant Workshop

   Discussion followed on needs of various departments on campus concerning new graduate students, waivers, remedial course, etc.
b. AGEM Winter Scholar Symposium will be held January 22 – 24, 2004, which falls on the January Graduate Council Meeting date. Dr. Hosie proposed January 16, 2004, or January 30, 2004, as alternative dates.

Discussion followed regarding the scheduled December meeting. Dr. Dwayne Wise made the motion that the Council not meet on December 12, 2003. Dr. Chinling Wang seconded the motion.

The next Graduate Council Meeting will be January 30, 2004.

8. New Business

a. Ms. Rita Burrell, Graduate Studies Manager, distributed Proposed Modifications to the Graduate Bulletin. Dr. Boyle proposed a meeting with Ms. Burrell regarding the modifications, and he will present a report at the February 27, 2004, meeting.

b. Dr. Hosie introduced the issue of “Graduate Not Good Standing” previously reported by Dr. Person. Dr. Hosie spoke with Butch Stokes regarding the printing of “Graduate Not Good Standing” on a student’s transcript who graduates with less than a 3.0 overall grade point average. This can occur when a graduate student transfers some courses, but not all, from a previous program to his/her current program. Mr. Stokes recommends this procedure be done the semester the student graduates as opposed to earlier because of changes related to the student. The progression would begin with the student, advisor, graduate coordinator, and dean. Discussion followed.

A subcommittee of Dr. Boyle, Dr. Barbara Spencer, and Ms. Burrell will review needed Modifications to the Graduate Bulletin.

Dr. Spencer made the motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.