Graduate Council Minutes  
April 25, 2007  
Eagle Room, Davies Center

Members Present: Phillips (Chair), Amdahl, Anderson, Cox, Dempsey, Dock, Erffmeyer, Gallaher, Gardner, Kirkhorn, Pederson, Polnaszek, Sutton, Zwygart-Stauffacher, Wendt  
Guests: Scheible

1. The meeting was called to order by Interim Dean Andrew Phillips at 3:04 p.m.
2. The minutes of February 21, 2007, were approved as written.
3. Announcements from Dean Phillips:
   - We will be evaluating the program review materials of the MEPD-Library Science program offered within the Department of Foundations of Education at our next GC meeting. The materials have been sent via email to GC members.
   - We have not been able to define an obvious distinction between a thesis, research paper, and the other papers, so we will leave the responsibility of defining papers within the individual programs. The binding requirement for the research paper has not been determined yet. We will return to the binding issue.
4. The College of Business requested to reorganize the Graduate Catalogue by college, rather than by department. Nursing already has all of their courses together, and they would like to keep it this way. Representatives from other programs prefer the current arrangement. It was decided that the Registrar’s Office will work with the COB to arrange their offerings by college, but the rest of the catalogue will remain as is (by dept).
5. The Entitlement to Plan a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree was discussed (handout distributed). By 2015 either a DNP or PhD in Nursing will be required for all professional nurses practicing in advanced professional roles. The MSN degree would be eliminated if we offer the DNP degree. The MSN degree currently requires approximately 41-47 credits, and the DNP degree will require approximately 66-75 credits. Ideally, a full-time student could complete the DNP degree in three calendar years. The DNP will be the entry to advanced practice and be required for the national certification. Resources will be an issue and will need to be explored. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved for the Council to support the DNP degree recommendation. The Council decided that we should hold an information session to discuss the DNP idea with the Graduate Faculty as soon as possible, and then bring the announcement to APC and Senate before the end of the semester.
6. Other business:
   - S/U grades: Should we accept S/U coursework in our graduate programs? Currently we do not have any policies for S/U credits. It was mentioned that a few graduate courses can only be taken for S/U credit. Dean Phillips will draft a statement to be added to the catalogue for limiting the number of S/U credits.
   - Oral exams: Last fall the Council decided that it is critical to keep a third member on the oral committee from outside of the student’s program of study. Since exceptions are being requested, do we want to reconsider this requirement? Again, the decision was that we should continue to enforce this requirement.
   - Graduate Faculty Standing: Dean Phillips reminded everyone that those serving on oral exam committees must have “graduate faculty” status, or have the approval of the Department Chair, College Dean, and the Graduate Dean to be granted “temporary graduate faculty” status.
   - Assessment: Graduate Studies is now collecting Exit Surveys from our recent graduates (starting with December 2006 graduates). Please be prepared to discuss what your program is doing for assessment, as well as what are you doing with the data once it is collected? If changes are recommended, but no changes are made, why not?

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Amdahl
Secretary to the Graduate Council
May 10, 2007