Graduate Council Minutes  
November 15, 2006  
Eagle Room, Davies Center

Members Present: Phillips (Chair), Amdahl, Christian, Dempsey, Gallaher, Havholm, Jadack, Mann, Polnaszek, Russell, Schick, Shaddock, Wendt

1. The meeting was called to order by Interim Dean Andrew Phillips at 3:02 p.m.
2. The minutes of October 25, 2006, were approved as written.
3. The Graduate Council viewed a DVD titled, “Graduate Education & American Competitiveness,” which was produced by the Council of Graduate Schools.
   - Handouts were distributed, which introduced and summarized the DVD.
   - The video expressed how graduate education is becoming increasingly important as a strategic component of U.S. competitiveness and security, and that it is time to renew our national commitment to graduate education as a key public good.
   - Dean Phillips also distributed a handout that introduced the Professional Science Masters (PSM), a new degree that is becoming popular in graduate education. He then asked members to think about what we could do here at UWEC to improve and/or expand our graduate programs, and he would like to come back to this topic at a future Graduate Council meeting.
   - Some of the ideas that were mentioned as possible future graduate program offerings at UWEC were: Master of Social Work, Doctor of Nursing Practice, Master of Arts in Legal Studies, and Doctorate in Special Education (delivered online and hybrid).
4. The committee continued to review updates to the current (2005-07) graduate catalogue:
   - Dean Phillips announced that if all goes as planned at the next GC meeting (12/13/06) that he would encourage a motion and associated vote on the changes made to the catalogue. The updated version of the catalogue would then be brought to a meeting of the graduate faculty for approval.
   - Academic Standards and Procedures: Last spring we voted and approved to add +/- grading to graduate courses. This new grading policy will go into effect for the 2007-08 Fall Semester, so this section will be updated in the catalogue to reflect this change. In addition, the last paragraph will be updated to clarify that credit for a research paper (795) or thesis (799) is recorded upon satisfactory completion of the oral examination and the research paper or thesis. It was also noted that the “PR” for research paper and thesis courses will always remain on the student’s transcript. This is an issue that may warrant future discussion.
   - Retention in the College: The current statement in question will be replaced by the following: Students placed on probation must raise their overall graduate GPA to 3.00 or above at the conclusion of the term in which they complete their next six graduate credits.
   - Academic Load: Last spring we voted that enrollment in any number of thesis credits would justify full-time enrollment. Therefore, the following sentence will be added: Enrollment in at least one thesis credit or in an applied field project is also considered full-time enrollment for financial aid and enrollment certification purposes.
   - Academic Integrity: This entire section is new and will be added to the catalogue.
5. We will continue to review the catalogue revisions at our next meeting. The most up-to-date version of the catalogue with recommended updates can be found on the “W” drive, inside the “grad” folder.
The meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Amdahl  
Secretary to the Graduate Council  
November 28, 2006