Graduate Council Minutes
May 16, 2007
Alumni Room, Davies Center

Members Present: Phillips (Chair), Amdahl, Anderson, Christian, Cox, Dempsey, Gallaher, Gardner, Kirkhorn, Polnaszek, Rhoades, Shaddock, Solberg
Guests: Tamara Lindsey, Roger Tlusty

1. The meeting was called to order by Interim Dean Andrew Phillips at 3:04 p.m.
2. The minutes of April 25, 2007, were approved as written.
3. Announcements from Dean Phillips:
   - The Entitlement to Plan a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree was well-received by APC and Senate on 5/8/07, and by the graduate faculty who attended the Information Session held on 5/7/07.
   - Due to retirements, two replacements will be needed on Graduate Council for the 2007/08 AY from the College of Education and Human Sciences. Each college should also recommend a graduate student.
   - Thanks to everyone for their contribution to GC over this past year. Special thanks to Katherine Rhoades and Alan Gallaher for their work throughout the years, and congratulations on retirements.
   - At a recent Associate Deans Meeting, the Deans confirmed that they only want those with “permanent” graduate faculty status to be listed in the graduate catalogue. In addition, they would like Graduate Studies to review the changes made by the departments. Those with “temporary” graduate faculty status will not be listed in the catalogue.
4. Graduate Council was scheduled to review the MEPD-Library Science program within the Foundations of Education Department today. Dean Phillips noted that APC decided to suspend their review of FED for two years, and that GC could follow the lead of APC, or we could go ahead and conduct our review. The Graduate Council unanimously voted to suspend the review of the MEPD-LS program for two years, noting that it makes sense to keep the reviews parallel for the MEPD and MEPD-LS programs. Council members pointed out that the review was not a wasted effort because the reports would be useful to the department, program, and the new college dean.
5. At our last meeting the Council discussed satisfactory/unsatisfactory (S/U) registration in graduate coursework, and it was determined that there should be a statement in the graduate catalogue that refers to the use of S/U grades. Dean Phillips provided a rough draft of a new section titled “Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Registration.” Dean Phillips will make the suggested edits and we will revisit the issue next fall. Comments on S/U grading:
   - Since we have higher expectations of graduate students, a satisfactory grade of “S” should require a minimum grade of “B” (3.0) or better, rather than a “C,” in graduate coursework. An unsatisfactory grade of “U” would represent a “B-” or below. We will need to seek input from the Registrar.
   - We are not encouraging the use of S/U grading. However, there are departments that may have appropriate S/U-type courses (where the course is only offered for S/U or pass/fail), such as field experiences or practicum courses.
   - S/U registration should not be allowed in courses where exams, quizzes, etc. are graded.
6. Last fall the Graduate Council voted that registration in at least one thesis credit would be considered as full-time for financial aid and enrollment certification purposes. The catalogue also mentions that enrollment in “an applied field project” is considered full-time. You can check with the Registrar’s Office to verify whether a course is currently coded as full-time or not. You may also want to keep this in mind when developing new courses that are field-based, such as internships.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Amdahl
Secretary to the Graduate Council
May 24, 2007