

Graduate Council Minutes - 3/14/03

Present: P. Atkins, A. Balant, P. Edwards, P. Freeman, M. Garratti, M. Guiry, J. Hammond, J. McLaurin, D. Miller, M. Roehm, R. Rudnitski, and S. Vinson

Guest: Laurel Garrick Duhaney, Coordinator, Special Education

Presiding: Phyllis Freeman, Dean of the Graduate School

The meeting was called to order in HAB 703 at 2:05 p.m.

1. The minutes of the meeting of February 28, 2003 were approved unanimously.
2. Announcements
 - a. State Ed approved the title (Painting/Drawing) and minor curricula changes to the Painting MFA Program.
 - b. The Painting MAAS Program will be changed too, but it has to go through the same change process as the MFA Program.
 - c. P. Freeman gave an update on the status of the revised Graduate Application and Graduate Catalog. In light of feedback she received, the application will be put in the front part of the catalog, while the policies of the Graduate School will be produced separately in a smaller, nicely covered document that will be given to students after they enroll.

Before the catalog can be sent to press, two matters have to be attended to:

- i. One department has not given their catalog copy. This was due in November.
 - ii. Human Resources has to check faculty listings.
 - d. The NCATE group wants to meet with the Curriculum Committee and Graduate Council on April 28 at 1:00 p.m. Earlier in the day, it will meet with the Deans and P. Freeman.
 - e. The New Course Proposals Subcommittee will be receiving a Summer online course proposal from Black Studies for the course African American History.
3. Old Business
 - a. The editorial changes requested by Council were made to the six program proposals from Special Education.
 - b. Prof. Duhaney from Special Education discussed the rationale for the proposed changes that were discussed at the March 14 meeting. One proposed change is to decrease the number of credits that graduate students will have to take by eliminating the required 3 credit elective category, entitled, Current Issues for Teaching Learners with Disabilities. This change would occur in four of the programs: Adolescence Special Education for candidates entering with initial certification in adolescence

education or adolescence special education and Childhood Special Education for candidates entering with initial certification in childhood education or childhood special education. For the other two programs, the proposal is to add a number of initial certifications to those that are currently accepted for entry into the Master's Program in Childhood Special Education and the Master's Program in Adolescent Special Education.

According to Dr. Duhaney, the reasons for decreasing the number of required credits are:

- i. content overlap with other core courses,
- ii. the change is in line with the CEC, the accrediting body, requirement standards,
- iii. satisfying students needs', i.e., they want fewer credits, and
- iv. the number of required credits will be comparable to other schools.

Council was satisfied with her explanation.

- c. With the suggested modification of the conceptual framework, i.e., add mission statement, the motion to accept the proposed changes to the six Special Education programs was approved unanimously by Council.
4. New Business
- a. P. Freeman would still like to have a discussion with Council members about the set of articles given out at the February 14.
 - b. The Graduate Faculty meeting will be held May 9. One of the new business items at the meeting will be the consideration of the new Bylaws.
 - c. P. Edwards brought up the issue of safety procedures at SUNY New Paltz for emergency situations. He was interested in knowing what type of procedures are in place and questioned if procedures are in place, why they are not practiced in the same manner that fire safety procedures are practiced with fire drills.
 - d. After an ensuing discussion among some Council members, Council passed a motion to have a conversation about SUNY New Paltz's crisis management procedures. Council would like to invite VP D'Aleo to a future meeting to discuss the procedures.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Guiry, Secretary