

GRADUATE FACULTY MEETING

Minutes 5/7/04

The meeting was called to order in Humanities 218 at 1:00 p.m.

1. Professor Peter Edwards, Presiding Officer of the Graduate Faculty called the meeting to order. He thanked Graduate Council for its work throughout the year and thanked Dean Freeman for her contribution to the Graduate Council and the Graduate School.
2. The minutes of May 9, 2003 were approved unanimously.
3. President Poskanzar provided an overview of the enrollments from fall 2003 through summer projections of 2004. He indicated that the decline of enrollment during this period might be a function of the tuition increase. He will continue to investigate the cause for the decline. President Poskanzar will also look into facilities usage for graduate students.

President Pozkanzer reviewed the present budgetary situation regarding its lateness and the overall uncertainty of its contents. An example of this is the lack of implementation of the new funding formula for GAs and TAs. In addition, the quality design dependent upon relationships with various universities is on hold.

On a positive note, President Pozkanzer reported that the redesign of the budget allocation process is in progress. Provost Lavalley is a representative on this committee.

President Poskanzar concluded his remarks by noting that he sees graduate programs as being part of an evolutionary process. He cannot see the graduate school as a monolith since there are so many different programs and we need to look at each one as part of the whole school. President Poskanzar sees graduate programs serving the local and statewide need for community workforces. In addition, he wants to attract more international students not only for their education but help them become part of the Mid-Hudson region. A copy of his report is on file in the Graduate Office.

4. Provost Lavalley, The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs outlined examples of challenges that the Graduate School faces in the future such as the tuition increase, changes in certification and visas for business students. Provost Lavalley gave the specific example of a teacher who would receive a salary increase for taking additional graduate credits, however, the tuition increase makes this a "trade-off".

Provost Lavalley reported that programs that are identified as those with the potential for significant enrollment increase; SUNY New Paltz will commit

resources for two years to help build the program. The goal is that in year three, the program will become self-sufficient.

Provost Lavallee wants to create more opportunities for full time faculty to teach at the graduate level. A copy of his report is on file in the Graduate Office.

5. Dean Freeman thanked Graduate Council members for their effort during the year. Some of the notable accomplishments of Graduate Council during the year included the approval of a new (regular and online) courses, program changes, academic appeals, by-laws revision, privacy issues for online courses, and transcript review initiatives and actions. The Graduate Council funded 20 student proposals for a total of \$5,470.

Dean Freeman reported that there were positive changes in the Graduate Office. Staff input helped to redesign the physical layout of the Graduate Office, hired staff assistants and students who performed multiple tasks, and there continues to be progress made in including more people from underrepresented groups.

Dean Freeman outlined several goals for the Graduate School. Examples are the assessment plan and the process for completion, improvement of the Graduate School data screen, technology improvements for students and faculty, digitalize projects and portfolios, and encouragement for program expansion in counseling, psychology, and partnerships for the Phd.

Graduate faculty noted that Dean Freeman has been a positive influence for 12 years. She served two terms as Presiding Officer. Dean Freeman thanked all for their support. A copy of her report is on file in the Graduate Office.

6. Associate Dean Karen Bell reported on the enrollments, program changes in Humanistic and Multi-Cultural education, and NCATE approval. Dean Bell indicated that the School of Education is looking at dual certification in elementary and special education. A copy of her report is on file in the Graduate Office.
7. Professor Michael Guiry reported on the enrollments of the Business school. He indicated that there is a problem with visas that affects the enrollments. Professor Guiry also reported on four successful searches and additional summer offerings. A copy of his report is on file in the Graduate Office.
8. Dean Kurt Daw in Fine and Performing Arts reported on enrollments, difficulties in recruitment, and the national recognition of the MFA program. In addition, Dean Daw reported on faculty accomplishments at the regional and local levels. A copy of his report is on file in the Graduate Office.

9. Associate Dean Lynn Spangler of Arts and Sciences reviewed the areas of study that support graduate education. Dean Spangler also reviewed the work and accomplishments of each Department. In addition, staffing, nursing enrollments, dual degree issues, and overall funding for faculty research and travel were addressed. A copy of her report is on file in the Graduate Office.
10. Professor David Clark of Science and Engineering reviewed programs that have a regional need. He indicated that they are successfully maintaining themselves. In addition, Professor Clark reported on enrollments, potential collaboration with other schools, and that more students are selecting the thesis option. A copy of his report is on file in the Graduate Office.
11. Assistant Vice President for Sponsored Programs Jan MacLaurin distributed several handouts that described the process to increase visibility and recognition of research. Specifically, the “Spotlight on Sponsored Research and Creative Activity” was noted. Jan MacLaurin also reported on pilot programs, various workshops, the internal fund program, assessment, and compliance issues. A copy of her report is on file in the Graduate Office.
12. No old business.
13. New business: Presiding Officer Peter Edwards made the request for 3 alternate seats on the Graduate Council. He outlined the process for nomination.
14. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Muffs
Graduate Council secretary