SUNY New Paltz
Graduate Council Minutes
5/07/2010

Began promptly at 1:00 PM
Present: Elizabeth Hester, Fiona Paton, Rosemary Millham, Narcyz Roztocki, Bernadette Morris, Edward Sullivan for Rose Rudnitski, Ying Lin, Jan McLaurin, Laurel Garrick Duhaney, Jon Raskin, Anat Shiftan for Emily, Andrea Noel, Gweneth M. Lloyd

Guests: Terry Murphy and Nancy Schniedewind

Approval of minutes:
- Discussion
- Corrections: Add Fiona Paton and correct room # and Narcyz’s name
- No other changes
- Motion to approve with corrections, Bernadette
- Seconded by Elizabeth Hester

Announcements
- Jon is leaving for San Diego; 90% sure
- A. Sheldon has passed after complications from surgery
- Rosemary Millham’s book, ‘Everything Moon: An educator’s guide to the Moon’ has been recommended for publication in the fall/winter 2010 (800+ pages)

New Business out of sequence due to visitors, Nancy and Terry who discussed the following:
- Request for alternative certification in humanistic multicultural education
- SUNY New Paltz and other universities look at junior/senior year of UG work and do not use the content specialty test (CST) or experience as criteria for acceptance into programs
- SUNY New Paltz has the only program in humanistic/multicultural education in the Hudson Valley
- Students have strengths in some areas and not in others and GREs do not necessarily reflect abilities; i.e. poor test taking skills
- Other universities use GPA in content areas, not the overall GPA
- Request is for alternative admission requirements for special subject areas and possibly accepting as low as a 2.8 GPA overall in lieu of 3.0 GPA, dependent on content GPA

General Discussion
- Have to have high admission standards
- Some evaluation of experience and success is relevant to acceptance into the programs
• Various individuals, various needs; Human resources, counselor, business, etc., applicants are seen
• Would require applicant to supply the proper documents
• Nancy and Terry agree they need to make the proposal tighter to work within the standards and guidelines of the Graduate Council
• Suggested that life experience is something GC needs to address. People coming back after extended time away from academia may be totally different now. What is the evidence? Portfolio? Documentation? What do they do, how can they prove it? Are these experiences relevant and extensive enough?
• Another option: taking up to three graduate courses prior to matriculation may be a sensible option for these students, along with documentation/evidence

Nancy and Terry left and we continued discussions and recommendations as follows:
• We could accept with recommended changes.

Vote: Pending revision that the proposal reads

• Council voted to approve the option that the last 60 credits of the undergraduate work has a minimum of 3.0 GPA—that is, for students whose GPA falls between 2.8-3.0.
• The Council would like the proposal to state that the policy will not be used to choose some students over others who meet full admission criteria.
• Finally, the Council would like more information about the CST option. This option was therefore not approved.

Vote passed the proposal unanimously with the aforementioned revisions and considerations.

F. Policy for Grad student inactivity. What do we do? If the department policies state, for example, 5-7 years to complete a program, why are they in the system for additional years? Not a clear count of actual attending students if they are in the system and inactive. Bernadette would like students automatically deleted from the system if they are not active after the department deadline for completion of the program. The policies and what we do are inconsistent and need to be addressed and remedied.

• They can still get a leave for 1 year, and exceptions can be made.
• However, some students are in the system for decades.
• Bernadette prefers a system that reads ‘G’ for students who have graduated.
A motion was made for Bernadette to be allowed to work with computer services to do an exit from the system:
  - G for graduated
  - Inactive deletion if not attending for 'X' years (dependent upon the department)

Vote: Unanimous vote

**Old Business**

A. Transfer credits for our internal graduates into the graduate programs: Laurel stated that, effective immediately, we will no longer require our own students to pay the tuition differential for transferring internal credits to a graduate program. This is an exceptional piece of progress as non-New Paltz students are not required to pay to transfer graduate credits to their program. It is fair to treat our own graduates accordingly.

C. The committee reviewed and discussed course proposals submitted by the Science and Engineering department and amendments/changes are to be made as follows:

- EGE 521 examines in introduction and syllabus, text year needs to be added, pg. 2, page 3 'has' should be has, objectives are weak and need work, course description needs to be re-worked, bibliography (not a college requirement). The number of students expected to be allowed in to the course states 20. Official word on count needs to come from the provost’s office. Normally need 25 minimum. If you choose to have 20, need to explain why, in detail.

- EGE 523 Need to provide a sketch of the proposed project for the course. Does not need to limit possibilities, but needs to address what a project entails. Also homework should be more explicit such as ‘problems related to…. and renamed to assignments in lieu of homework. Additionally, massage the language so the fact that the course is online is evident in all of the dialogue in the document as a whole… Examples of online dialogue includes: ‘online submission’ should be indicated, not ‘handed in’ and ‘Policies’ has the group work indicated for the seated course. This kind of language needs to be changed to indicate it is online throughout. Grammar needs to be checked carefully.

- EGE 527 Examines again, full citation needed for the texts, learning outcomes need work university policies need to be current.

- EGE 536 However this is a standard course pg 3 or 5 needs to be taken off, classes missed needs to be clear, grammar to be checked, and connect the class point values to numerical letter grades. Again, address grammar carefully.
- EGE 537 Numbers of students as in the other proposals. Needs also for the
technology needs to be addressed, the narrative is missing, and the catalog
description needs work.

- EGE 552 Underline course content, syllabus course catalog description needs work,
be consistent on punctuation and structure.

The graduate Council voted unanimously to approve the above courses with the
condition that revisions are correctly addressed and changes made. The revisions
are to be sent to Laurel for review and approval.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Rosemary Millham, Department of Secondary
Education