

Graduate Council Meeting
Friday, September 23, 2011, 1:00-2:30 PM, HAB 802

Attendance: Kate McCoy, Thais B.P. da Cunha, Rosemary Millham, Narcyz Roztocki, Dan Kempton, Laurel M. Garrick Duhaney, Dean of the Graduate School, Vika Shock, Inge Anema, Larry Fialkow, Bernadette Morris.

Not in attendance (excused): Gweneth Lloyd and Matthew Friday

1. Approval of Minutes of September 9, 2011 with minor changes:

Changes: The line "Stella Turk will hold a workshop on" followed by a question mark, take the question mark out.

Change the schools from which members reside:

(Each educator (School of Education), Narcyz (Business), Tom (LA and S), Matthew (Fine and Performing Arts), Inge (LA&S and Communications Disorders), Larry (Science and Engineering), Bernadette (Registrar), Gweneth (Director, Psychology Counseling Center)

2. Announcements

- Advisory council for college as requested by the President (see below under old business).
- Transcripts from NP for students applying to NP: How do we let students know they do not have to pay for credits transferred within the system of NP, and will not have to order transcripts if from here?
- Pamela Hickey will be here for Rosemary Millham on Oct. 14
- Kate McCoy will also have a substitute on October 14.
- Laurel may well be in China in October 12-30 or so, for recruitment in master's programs, so the October 14th meeting may be moved: Laurel was asked to attend to market the following programs:
 - Business
 - Computer Science
 - Electrical Engineering
 - Possibly ELL/ESL may also be discussed and TESOL

3. Old Business

- Our new president, Dr. Donald Christian, is creating an advisory council, which will include one part-time and one full-time graduate student. The Advisory Council is a venue for him to hear about and learn student perspectives on institutional level issues and concerns. Especially in this first year of his presidency, the Council will be one of the sources of input for him to continue learning about the College and to formulate priorities for his presidency. The group is strictly advisory to the President and has no governance or policy-making roles.

- Best Practices in Distance Learning: Guest: Linda Smith demonstrated/ discussed Elluminate, an alternative for classroom instruction. Features of Elluminate:
 - Live web conferencing
 - Free to SUNY New Paltz through June 2012
 - Can be used for all aspects of distance education: Online, hybrid, blended
 - Acts similar to blackboard with some alterations
 - Possible classroom/course uses include:
 - Conducting class while you are away for a conference, etc.
 - As part of a hybrid course/program
 - As a blended course/program
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- Transfer Credits Policy Revisited – (New Paltz vs. Non- New Paltz transfer credits)
 - We reviewed the policy. If the graduate coursework is no older than 7 years, a graduate student may transfer 6-9 credits of coursework to the graduate program of study. If a SUNY New Paltz student took a graduate course as an undergraduate we might want to modify our policy to include the statement that the course cannot be transferred to the graduate program of study if it was used in partial fulfillment for the undergraduate degree. While we routinely monitor requests from SUNY New Paltz undergraduates to transfer credits to their graduate programs of study, we need to do so more consistently for non-New Paltz undergraduates. Going forward, these students will always be required to submit documentation from their Registrar's office verifying that the graduate credits taken while they were undergraduates were not part of the requirements for the undergraduate degree.

We also discussed the wording in our own policy to clarify how and why transfer credits are accepted. Also discussed the 'B' policy as an acceptable policy (i.e. transfer credits must be a 'B' or better).

- Possible formation of an Advisory Council for the Graduate School. Possible members: alumni, business persons and faculty/staff at New Paltz
 - Do we know of graduate students who would be willing to sit on the advisory council? Think about possibilities so we can move forward with a decision.
- Continued Registration Workshop & Comprehensive Examination Registration Revisited:
 - Continued Registration Workshop: confusion with the terminology workshop. Hence the change in title to: Continued Registration Preparation. Students who have registered for the maximum number of thesis credits and are yet to complete their thesis will automatically be registered for 1-credit of continued registration (i.e., Continued

Registration Preparation) each semester until they complete the thesis. At that point, the H will be changed to a letter grade.

- The student needs to register for one credit each semester until the thesis is completed because some students walk away and never finish, staying on the books for years as inactive. This is problematic.
- There is a question about the difficulties entailed with a professor going on sabbatical while the student is paying for the credit.
- The program credits are separate from the thesis credits. The 1-credit Continued Registration Preparation credits will not be added to the credits needed to fulfill the requirements for a program.
- What happens if the student registered for XXX599 does not pass the comprehensive exam? Depending on the graduate program, the student will register for XXX799 and pay the 1-credit continued registration.
- Departments need to specify with the graduate office the policy set forth for comprehensive exams; use of XXX599, XXX799, or no registration at all (i.e. communication disorders students do not register for the first time around for the exam, and register for the free XXX599 free credit for a second attempt).
- Suggestion: Change thesis policy to the first three bullets (only the first 4 items under the third bullet)

- The 'H' never rolls-over to an 'F.' A student can graduate with an H on the transcript.
- (RO--An I in NOT assigned for the thesis) An 'I' will change to an 'F' at the mid-point of the following semester, if paperwork is not received in Records and Registration, prior to that date, for extended time to complete the coursework.

4.

- Marketing

- Vika has a schedule for traveling to graduate fairs throughout the state
- Has entered a campus newspaper campaign to announce where SUNY New Paltz will visit with a canvass of students in education, engineering, etc., to gather more students to the table as possible applicants
- Vika went to Binghamton and Ithaca the week of September 19-23
- Plattsburgh, Syracuse and Potsdam were visited by Caroline
- Many students were interested in the following programs: MFA, environmental, communication disorders (speech pathology) English,

humanistic education, counseling, music therapy, school counseling,
MAT in mathematics and social studies

Tabled:

- 1) Declared majors and application yield
- 2) Student Appeal
- 3) Online Review of Graduate Applications

Respectfully Submitted by Rosemary Millham, PhD