

Graduate Council Minutes November 15, 2007

Present: Jennifer Clarke, Chair, Michelle Athanasiou, Dianna Gray, Ellen Gregg, Kacy Guill, Brian Johnson, Tracy Mueller, Robert Murray, Hannah Schertz

The meeting was called to order.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The agenda was approved.

Minutes will be revised to exclude names and program areas when reporting graduate faculty appointments/reappointments. Minutes will include only numbers of applications and number of apps approved. With corrections, there was a motion to approve the October 18, 2007 minutes, seconded.

ANNOUNCEMENT/REPORTS

Dean Report

Robbyn shared a book with Council titled "Making the Implicit Explicit," Creating Performance Expectations for the Dissertation. Book will be ordered for interested Council members.

Robbyn reported that an "Elasticity Study by UG McGuire.com will be done in spring 2008. UNC will partner with UGMcGuire.com to gather data on those students who come to UNC and others who do not.

Robbyn and staff members from the Graduate School will continue to meet with programs to discuss the Graduate application process and marketing of graduate programs. Meetings will be scheduled with the remainder of graduate programs in the spring.

Robbyn reported that the Provost has allocated more money for scholarship and for travel for research. Council discussed the issue of graduate student research and how to develop a mechanism to allow grad students to get research credit and a grade. Can dissertation hours be converted to research hours?

Robbyn reported that the Academic Plan will be approved November 16th. She will bring a copy of the Academic Plan to Council at a later meeting.

Student Report

Annelise reported that 55 awards for travel/conference/research support were given this fall. The stipend amount was \$550. COE had the most grants awarded with 31; PVA – 3; HSS – 2. Conference presentation funds were the most requested. There were fewer requests for just attending conferences and few for research. If a student was only attending a conference, the grant amount was \$200. Funding Terms are for summer, fall and spring. For more information, please direct students to the GSA website at www.unco.edu/gsa.

Annelise informed Council that James Holland is the new GSA President for Spring 2008. Annelise will be stepping down to complete an internship and she is also pregnant and due in April.

ACTION ITEMS

Program Review - none

Standards Committee

There were 8 new graduate faculty requests and the committee reviewed 3 former requests:

- 3 new applications – approved DRE
- 5 new applications requesting GF – standards recommended GL
- 3 former requests: 1 requested GR – approved GL; 1 – approved DRE; 1 approved for GF

DISCUSSION ITEMS

At the October Council meeting, Council members were asked to rank a list of issues/items that Council would like to address in the 0708 Council term. Members ranked the issues in order of importance. The top 6 will be tackled by Council:

- Promote Research Scholarship
- Promoting Scholarship on the Graduate Level
- Graduate Education Visibility
- Support of Graduate Students
- Retention and Recruitment of Graduate Students
- Enhance Communication of Issues to Faculty

Issues will be assigned to the appropriate Committee (either Standards or Program Review) and each committee will then provide a structure on how they would like to address the issue and then report to Council how they would like to implement their ideas. Committees can either meet or use email to gather their ideas.

All Council members were asked to focus on the top 2 issues for the 12/6/07 Council meeting. Members were asked to gather ideas/comments from faculty in their areas and bring those comments to the next meeting. Frances will email the following questions relating to scholarship and research (item #1 & 2 on the list of priorities):

- What are the hallmarks of an institution that promote research and scholarship?
 - What are we doing now to promote scholarship?
 - What are the barriers we are encountering in attempting to reach scholarship?
 - What are the best practices for promoting research scholarship and what are the variables that make that happen?

Meeting adjourned 4:45 pm.