

UCF Graduate Council

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GRADUATE POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of September 14, 2006 meeting

Members Present Patricia Bishop, Jim Moharam, Max Poole, Paul Rompf

Recorder Rhonda Nelson

Guests Present Linda Sullivan

Dr. Liberman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. in Room 243 MH. He welcomed everyone to the committee and asked that each of the members introduce themselves. The agenda was distributed which included a list of 14 items. The committee was then asked to review these items and would choose 4 or 5 items that they felt would be important to review for the fall semester. Dr. Bishop clarified each item for them and indicated that these items had been forwarded throughout the year to her from the various colleges and graduate staff as pressing issues to be considered. These items consisted of the following:

1. Doctoral program review involvement of Graduate Council – more quantity and quality about faculty. Doctoral programs are on a 7 year review cycle. Will bring documents to next meeting
2. Conflict of interest policy governing composition of dissertation/thesis committees – several issues here including graduate students being employed in a company owned by a professor. Is this a conflict of interest?
3. Residency requirement(s) for doctoral students – regarding students enrolled for 2 back to back sessions. Question on residency requirements for part-time students. There is a difference in what constitutes p-t and f-t students.
4. Patent Policy Update & Intellectual Property issues – T/D. This policy needs to be refreshed. Would involve General Counsel on this issue and review of these policies.
5. Turn-it-in software – have issues with students and plagiarism. The question is should we have everything go through this program first before being submitted to Graduate Studies. This is an accumulative software program. Also need to provide guidance to students.
6. Graduate faculty matters – clarification needed regarding emeriti, outside members (meaning of this), special members, and structure of graduate faculty.
7. Use of external exams – passing a professional certification exam. Should degrees be dependent on the above? Strong opinions both ways for and against these.
8. ETD dissemination option for student products – release of paper, should we release, intellectual property issue.
9. Senior scholars meeting graduate certificate requirements - if 9 hours could be used for GC programs.
10. Review of graduate certificate programs – graduate certificate programs are on a 3-year rolling review. Each year certain certificate programs come up for review. This committee reviews the enrollment on each of these programs and recommends to the college to either continue or sunset a particular program.
11. Continuous enrollment issues – how to define continuous enrollment and how do we want to enforce it.
12. Limit on number of 4000 level courses (above the 30 hours) – restore statement of up to a limit of 6 hours of 4000 level courses.
13. Criteria for pay for graduate assistants – uniformity in level of pay to graduate students.
14. Required courses outside the major – why does it have to be outside of the major and does it have any value?

GSA student rep attend meetings. Dr. Poole indicated that the GSA (Graduate Student Association) asked if they could send a rep to the policy meetings. Dr. Liberman then asked if there were any objections to having a GSA student sit in on this meeting. Committee agreed to extend an invitation to have a GSA member sit in on the meetings, if they wished to do so.

Discussion on agenda items. After all of the agenda items had been clarified, Dr. Liberman then asked the committee how they would like to prioritize these issues. The committee then reviewed and discussed these items. Discussion was held on item 1, doctoral program review. The group felt that if they did commit to be involved with this issue, they did agree that it would be good to have an outside consultant involved in the review process. Also to bring in someone from creative writing program to assist. After discussion of the issues, the committee agreed to review the following issues for the fall term: 1, 2, 5, 6, and 8.

Adjournment and next meeting date. Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. Next meeting will be held on October 12.

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