

UCF Graduate Council

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GRADUATE POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of April 12, 2007 meeting

Members Present Patricia Bishop, Jim Moharam, Max Poole, Vicky Zygouris-Coe

Recorder Rhonda Nelson

Guests Present Dan Dill

Handouts: graduate policy agenda, clarification of graduate faculty conduct and conflict of interest, and proprietary and confidential information policy.

1. Aaron Liberman, chair, began the meeting at 12:00 noon.
2. Minutes from 3/22 were reviewed and approved. The following topics were then discussed.
3. **Clarification of Graduate Faculty Conduct and Conflict of Interest.** Last Faculty Senate meeting Part B of this document was the only part that the Steering Committee presented to the Faculty Senate. Part A was not sent forward to the Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate voted and approved Part B with one dissenting vote. The two areas of conflict in Part A were:

A graduate student under a faculty member's direction, paid for by faculty member's grant, or in faculty member's research group, is employed part- or full-time by a commercial operation (whether for profit or not for profit) in which the faculty member has an ownership interest or is an officer or director. (The potential for conflict of interest in this situation would be reduced or eliminated by special circumstances, such as where the student independently sought employment with the commercial operation and the student plans to work in a field unrelated to his or her academic program).

Employing postdoctoral fellows and associates in a commercial operation (whether for profit or not for profit), in which a faculty member who supervises the fellow or associate (or an immediate family member of the faculty member) has an equity interest, to conduct research that overlaps with the fellow's university research or is to be conducted on University premises. Any proposed employment of a post-doctoral fellow or associate by a commercial operation where a supervising or advising faculty member has any interest (either directly or because of an immediate family member) should be reviewed in advance by the Office of Research and Commercialization.

4. The group reviewed and discussed these two areas at length. Changes were made to this area and a motion was made to resubmit Part A to the Faculty Senate in the fall. A unanimous vote was received to resubmit Part A to the Steering Committee for review and approval by the Faculty Senate in the fall.
5. The committee reviewed this document again. A question was brought up on the Intellectual Property Declaration form on how students would know at the time that they filled out the form if a patent or patents would be pursued. The committee agreed that the students should fill out the form before they start their thesis or dissertation and that a new form could be resubmitted if anything changed regarding a patent. A suggestion was also made that students should be advised to pass candidacy before they get tuition waivers. Dr. Bishop gave an update on information that she had received from Youndy Cook on the Turn-It-In software on conflict disclosure. A question was raised on whether the non disclosure form was done on an automatic basis. Additional changes were made to the form. The committee chair asked that Dr. Bishop make the additional changes to the document and the form. A motion was made and approved that this policy be sent forward to the Steering Committee for review and approval by the Faculty Senate.

Meeting adjournment and next meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m. This was the last meeting for this year. The Policy meeting will start again in August once new policy members are in place. An email will be sent in August to identify meeting dates and times.

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