

UCF Graduate Council

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GRADUATE POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of November 04, 2009 meeting

Members Present Deborah Breiter, Stephanie Guittar, Jim Moharam, Eduardo Mucciolo, Saleh Naser, Eladio Scharron, Michael Stern, Vicky Zygouris-Coe

Recorder Rhonda Nelson

Staff Members Tracy Jones

Dr. Moharam, chair, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. A quorum was established. The minutes from the October 14 meeting were approved by voice vote.

1. The language of the policy concerning Traveling Scholars was clarified.
2. The committee considered the input from the Appeals Committee and the concern about waived credits voiced by Dr. Kevin Coffey. The committee reconfirmed the current policy, specifically that waived credits for an earned master's degree would remain only for a complete set of 30 SCH, the entirety of the degree. Dr. Mucciolo commented that Physics has waived 30 SCH for earned degrees, but discriminates in the Program of Study which course requirements are satisfied, occasionally allowing less than 30 SCH of course requirements to be satisfied; in these circumstances, the student could only graduate with more than the minimum number of credits for the degree. The committee approved of this implementation of waived credits for earned master's degrees.
3. Dr. Naser indicated that up to 50% transfer credit should be accepted for a doctoral degree if it included the 30 hours for an earned master's degree. The committee agreed. The committee discussed and affirmed that the 30 transfer hours could come from a single earned degree or more than one earned degree.
4. The committee agreed on the following additional decisions concerning transfer credit:
 - a. For Doctoral degrees, 9 SCH of external transfer credit is allowable, even in addition to the transfer of up to 30 SCH for an earned master's degree, but not to exceed 50% of degree requirements.
 - b. Transfer credit is limited to formal coursework
5. The committee agreed that only courses in which a student obtained a grade of B- or higher would be eligible for UCF graduate transfer credit. This applies to both internal and external credits. This decision of the committee at this meeting reverses the decision made during the previous meeting concerning grade eligibility for internal transfer credit. The committee's decision was swayed by the argument that it would be unfair to allow internal transfer credits for grades below B-, since the unsatisfactory transfer grade would not be calculated into the graduate status GPA. This decision leaves intact the current policy.
6. There was a brief discussion on transfer of credits from an earned master's degree to another master's degree program. It was pointed out that currently only 9 credit hours may be transferred. If we change the policy to allow the transfer of internal credits up to 50% of a master's degree requirements, 15 credits (or more) could be shared. The committee agreed that this was too much. Dr. Moharam pointed out that this information should be part of the description for the dual degree policy. It was mentioned that certain degree programs have great overlap in their requirements.
7. Dr. Max Poole brought an urgent issue to the Policy Committee concerning new language in the Faculty Senate Constitution, specifically referring to moving the awards responsibility from the Appeals (and Awards) Committee to the Program Review Committee. The Policy Committee deleted these responsibilities from section 3.10.5.2.3.4 (Appeals Committee responsibilities) and added them to section 3.10.5.2.5.2 (Program Review Committee responsibilities). The committee also drafted amended language for the Appeals Committee responsibilities referred to in section 3.10.5.2.3.5. A motion approving the changes was made and passed.
8. The committee agreed to hold the final meeting of the term on 12/9/09 in room MH 327 from 3:30 – 5:00, canceling the meeting on 12/2/09.
9. Adjournment: The item will be reviewed again at the next meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

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