

UCF Graduate Council

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GRADUATE POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of February 08, 2012 meeting

Members Present

Linda Colding, Juli Dixon, Steven Ebert, C. Ross Hinkle, Jim Moharam, Nicole Owens, Paul Rompf, Eladio Scharron, Jose Sepulveda, Gerald Smith, Michael Stern, Axel Stock

Recorder

Rhonda Nelson

Staff Members

Tracy Jones, Max Poole

Welcome and call to order: Dr. Jim Moharam called the meeting to order and a quorum was established. The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and approved.

Resolution honoring Dr. Bishop: Dr. Moharam mentioned that the concept of the resolution had been approved but the actual text still needed to be written. The Appeals Committee and Curriculum Committee would be asked to vote on approval of the concept of this resolution at their next meetings.

Discussion of Graduate Faculty/Graduate Faculty Scholar policy. Dr. Moharam reported that the Steering Committee of the Faculty Senate had indicated at their last meeting that this policy needed to be presented to, and voted on by, the full Faculty Senate and then forwarded to the Provost for approval. The last meeting of the year is March 15 so this document needs to go to the Steering Committee by March 1. Dr. Stern reviewed the major changes of the policy. After discussing, the committee agreed to use the language "thesis and dissertation committee," rather than "advisory committee," consistently throughout the document. The committee then discussed how the requirement for a vice chair appointment and the requisite committee experience would be monitored. The committee agreed that the College of Graduate Studies and the programs would share this responsibility. It was noted that it would be helpful if faculty CVs indicated their service on thesis and dissertation committees. It was suggested that the language outlining the nomination process for Graduate Faculty Scholar appointments be added to C3. Dr. Dixon requested clarifying the language specifying the attendance of Graduate Faculty Scholars at the final oral defense. Dr. Moharam then summarized the changes that needed to be made to the document: 1) under the scholar section, add a sentence on the process; 2) change the word "present" to in attendance (physically or virtually); and 3) change the word "advisory" throughout the document to Thesis/Dissertation Committee.

The committee then discussed the criteria that would be used to establish the currency of a faculty member's scholarly activity, whether this would be discipline-specific, and how "disciplines" would be defined. This was an issue of concern to the Provost. After discussion, the committee agreed that doctoral programs would be responsible for submitting a statement to the College of Graduate Studies concerning what they considered appropriate for scholarly currency in their discipline. This would be used to determine the eligibility of graduate faculty nominees to chair dissertation committees, both for initial appointments and reappointment by the Program Review Committee.

The agreed-upon changes will be incorporated into a revised draft to be sent to the committee for review prior to a final vote to approve the policy at the next meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on February 22. Comments may be sent to Jim Moharam or Michael Stern.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

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