

UCF Graduate Council

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GRADUATE POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of October 24, 2012 meeting

Members Present

Cheryl Cabrera, Youngsoo Choi, Kevin Coffey, Linda Colding, Steven Ebert, Loretta Forlaw, Jim Moharam, Cheyenne Ro, Joshua Solomon, Michael Stern

Recorder

Rhonda Nelson

Members Present: Jim Moharam, Cheryl Cabrera, Kevin Coffey, Steven Ebert, Linda Colding, Loretta Forlaw, Cheyenne Ro, Joshua Solomon (by phone), Yoon Choi, Michael Stern

Recorder: Rhonda Nelson

Welcome and call to order: Chair Moharam called the meeting to order and a quorum was established. Introductions of the members followed. Minutes were reviewed and approved.

H/P/F grading. Chair Moharam gave an update from the last meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee, which is considering this issue for the Faculty Senate. The College of Medicine (COM) has requested approval to use this grading scale for 4 of their research courses for medical school students. The Honors College indicated that they opposed the use of this grading scale for undergraduate courses, and a proposal to limit consideration of this grading scale option to graduate courses was approved by the Ad Hoc Committee. They also approved a motion to solicit from each college whether or not they approved of the COM proposal and whether they might consider using this grading scale for their graduate courses. It was noted that this could affect a student's GPA if used more broadly. The Policy Committee agreed that this grading scale would be appropriate for certain COM courses offered to their medical students, but limited to those courses only. The committee felt strongly that this grading scale should not be available for formal graduate coursework. Chair Moharam indicated that he would indicate to Dr. Cook that members of the Policy Committee would be interested in attending the next Ad Hoc Committee meeting to share their opinions. Chair Moharam will share this discussion with the Ad Hoc Committee at their next meeting.

Master's degrees earned "along the way" – use of transfer credits from a previously-earned degree. The committee discussed the proposed addition to the last paragraph of the policy: *Credits from a previously-earned master's degree may not be used to fulfill the requirements of a master's degree for a student in a doctoral degree program (a "master's along-the-way")*. This clarification received unanimous approval and will be added to the catalog immediately.

Graduate faculty language clarification. The following clarification was reviewed for the graduate faculty and graduate faculty scholars policy.

Current language:

"Tenured, tenure-earning, and ranked faculty on multiyear agreements, and ranked librarians are eligible for appointment to the Graduate Faculty."

Proposed revised language:

"Tenured, tenure-earning, ranked Clinical or ranked Research professors, and ranked librarians are eligible for appointment to the Graduate Faculty."

This proposed clarification received unanimous approval and will be added to the catalog immediately.

Grading scales used for research hours (referred from the Curriculum Committee). The Curriculum Committee had recently reviewed a request to change the grading scale of a Directed Research (6918) course offering from "S/U" to "S/U or letter grade." The committee felt that grading consistency within the program was important to ensure fairness to all students, but did not understand the details of the mechanisms that can be used to restrict grading options, and at what level such restrictions can be implemented. Dr. Stern will report back to the committee on these details at the next meeting, and also take this question to the college associate deans at their next meeting. This item was tabled and will be reviewed again at an upcoming meeting.

Two additional items. Dr. Stern reminded the committee of two additional issues that were proposed for the committee to discuss: (1) state restrictions on enrollment; and (2) revalidation of expired courses (7-year rule). Once the committee receives background information on these two items, they can be brought forward for discussion.

Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

The meeting scheduled for November 14 was canceled; the next meeting is scheduled for December 5.

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