

UCF Graduate Council

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GRADUATE POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of February 08, 2007 meeting

Members Present Patricia Bishop, Max Poole, Paul Rompf, Vicky Zygoris-Coe

Recorder Rhonda Nelson

Guests Present Bob Armacost, Sherry Andrews, Youndy Cook, Heidi Watt

1. Aaron Liberman, chair, began the meeting at 12:00 noon. The minutes from the last meeting were approved.
2. **Resolution GS-3 – Employee Conduct and Conflicts of Interest.** Youndy Cook gave a summary of the updates that she had made to this resolution. There was discussion held on example conflict of interest activity which was located at the bottom of page one where the first activity listed states: *Entering into an agreement with an external sponsor that prohibits university researchers, including students and postdoctoral appointees, from publishing work that is not sponsored directly by the external sponsor.* Discussion was held on how often this happens and if it should be left as the first point of examples. The committee then agreed that it should be either deleted or moved to the bottom of the list if it doesn't happen very often. On page 3, discussion followed on examples of potential conflicts of interest which included: a faculty member that may have a spouse taking their class, a married couple where one supervises/evaluates the other person, and a child in the classroom of a parent. Following the discussion of this resolution, Youndy Cook asked for additional feedback from the committee. Youndy agreed to make updates to this draft and asked for someone to review it after her update. Dr. Liberman agreed to review it after Youndy has made the changes. It will then be forwarded to the committee to review before the next meeting.
3. **List of policy issues for the year.** Dr. Liberman then asked everyone to review the list of policy issues for the year so that decisions could be made on the order of the remaining issues. The issues to be reviewed next will be:
 - a. Finish Turn-it-In Software with ETDs
 - b. Finish Conflict of interest policy governing composition of dissertation/thesis committees
 - c. Doctoral policy that requires all doctoral students to take 6 hours of coursework at UCF outside of their program. (Invite Jana Jasinski, chair of Appeals Committee, to the 3/1 meeting).
 - d. Review of Graduate Certificate Programs
 - e. Residency requirements for doctoral students (Invite Teresa Wilkerson on 3/22 for items)
 - f. Continuous enrollment issues
 - g. Limit on number of 4000 level courses
4. **Turn-It-In.Com software and patent issues.** Dr. Bishop shared information regarding the comments she has received on concerns with patent issues. A question was raised as to how much of the patent policy is explained to the student. A suggestion was made to review our current patent policy. Youndy indicated that their office works with an outside patent lawyer. On the Turn-It-In software, the papers are only available to the faculty member's own class and papers are compared only across this university. Turn-It-In cannot run a random search and is a closed subset within a UCF database. A question was asked if TII would retain UCF's papers if the contract with them was terminated. Youndy indicated that she will ask for a legal opinion from TII on some of these issues. These questions will be held until the next committee meeting.
5. **Meeting adjournment and next meeting.** Meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for March 1, 12:00-1:30, 243 MH. The committee was asked to bring their calendars to the next meeting as an additional meeting or two may need to be arranged.