

UCF Graduate Council

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GRADUATE POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of September 23, 2009 meeting

Members Present

Deborah Breiter, Jacquie Byers, Christopher Geiger, Stephanie Guittar, Jim Moharam, Eduardo Mucciolo, Saleh Naser, Eladio Scharron, Michael Stern, Vicky Zygouris-Coe

Dr. Moharam, chair, called the meeting to order at 3:30 and had members introduce themselves.

1. Review of issues to address: Dr. Stern explained the various instances in which credit is shared between programs as a context for setting policy for dual degree programs, master's along the way, etc... (item 1). Dr. Bishop stated that the MPA/MNM dual degree being proposed includes 12 SCH of shared credit. Dr. Naser indicated that an explicit policy concerning substitution of thesis/dissertation hours (item 4) was very important. Also mentioned was the substitution of PhD seminars for Master's seminars, but not vice versa. Dr. Moharam mentioned that item 8, continuous enrollment, was the issue most frequently brought up by faculty to him since it has monetary implications, and is important to address. The committee requested that Dr. Scharron, representing CAH, speak with his Dean for input into drafting MFA policies (item 9) and the use of portfolios as substitutes for the candidacy exam (item 3). The committee thought that it would be helpful for an MFA representative to attend a future meeting to present the policy issues that would be specific to MFA programs. Other issues that might be addressed by the committee: restricting the grading of research courses to S/U; the lack of a mechanism to control the grading of on-line courses.
2. Discussion of "residence credits" (item 5): The committee began discussing distinguishing transfer credits for UCF courses ("residence credits") vs. courses taken at another university. A number of relevant issues were raised: (i) the validity of distinguishing internal vs external coursework; (ii) whether they would be included in the graduate status GPA; (iii) whether these would be used to circumvent admissions standards; (iv) what are reasonable limits; and (v) different treatment of elective vs. core requirements. The committee confirmed leaving intact the transfer limit of 9 credits for courses taken external to UCF. The committee discussed the idea of limiting the total of waived, transfer (outside UCF) and "residence credits" to 50% of program degree requirements, and that thesis and dissertation credits would be excluded. Dr. Stern will create an initial draft on residence credits to give to the committee for the next meeting.
3. The meeting adjourned at 5:00.

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