

UCF Graduate Council

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GRADUATE POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of January 13, 2010 meeting

Members Present Patricia Bishop, Jacquie Byers, Wendi Kane, Eduardo Mucciolo, Eladio Scharron, Michael Stern, Vicky Zygouris-Coe

Recorder Rhonda Nelson

Guests Present Alison Morrison-Shetlar

Staff Members Max Poole

Special Meeting to discuss Z grade policy draft

Dr. Mucciolo chaired the meeting in Dr. Moharam's absence. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Dr. Morrison-Shetlar explained the draft undergraduate Z-grade policy, its wide support among both students and faculty, and the history of its development. In brief, this policy was designed for UCF's undergraduate students after significant research, time, and student and faculty input. It is similar to systems used to insure academic integrity at USF, Rollins, and many other institutions nationally. The Z designation does not alter the normal grade assignment processes. Dr. Morrison-Shetlar then answered several questions from members of the committee, who also made some suggestions to clarify the process.

Discussion of graduate Z grade policy: Significant discussion resulted in the following decisions concerning the proposed Z-grade policy.

1. The committee agreed unanimously that a similar, but distinct Z-grade policy should be adopted specifically for the graduate student population at UCF.
2. The first violation would result in a Z grade designation appearing on the student's transcript. The only allowable Z grades for graduate students are ZF or ZU.
3. Graduate students do not have recourse to remove the Z designation other than through the academic grade appeal process (Golden Rule). Appeal of a ZF or ZU grade would be considered by an academic integrity committee, whose sole role would be to adjudicate issues of academic integrity.
4. Conferral of a ZU grade in a thesis (6973) or dissertation (7980) course will result in immediate dismissal from the program.
5. A second violation would result in a Z grade designation appearing on the student's transcript and immediate dismissal from the program.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.