

UCF Graduate Council

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GRADUATE POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of March 03, 2010 meeting

Members Present

Deborah Breiter, Jacquie Byers, Wendi Kane, Jim Moharam, Eduardo Mucciolo, Saleh Naser, Eladio Scharron, Michael Stern, Vicky Zygoris-Coe

Recorder

Rhonda Nelson

Staff Members

Tracy Jones

Welcome. Dr. Moharam called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. A quorum was established. The minutes from the February 17 meeting were approved by voice vote.

Graduate Z grade policy. Some discussion was held on this issue. Dr. Stern pointed out that a basic structure needs to be put together. He shared information that he had gathered from reviewing other universities' policies and found that there was a lot of variety among the institutions, from very simple to very complex policies. Some policies included levels of sanctions and very detailed processes with flow charts. A flowchart from FSU on their honor policy was shared and discussed. Dr. Stern indicated that he would pull some information together for continued discussion on this policy. Dr. Stern reported that the revised version of the UG policy had not been presented yet to the Faculty Senate.

Master's along the way. Discussion was held on the portion of the dual degree shared credit policy that concerns the conferral of master's degrees for students in doctoral degree programs. The committee discussed what would constitute allowable substitutions, and agreed upon allowing up to a maximum of 9 SCH of higher level courses for their precise lower level counterparts. They also indicated that a notation should be added to indicate that thesis hours may not be substituted. Discussion was held on doctoral research and substituting these for capstone courses. A question was raised on whether this policy should go to the Steering Committee. Dr. Stern indicated that the process was already in place and that we were drafting the corresponding language. The committee agreed that it should not require any action from the Steering Committee. Dr. Moharam asked for a vote regarding the changes. The committee approved the revisions as suggested.

Research course grading – S/U vs. A/B/C/D/F. It was clarified that the scheduler who establishes these courses can limit grading options during the set-up process.

Additional issues for discussion. A discussion was held on what was considered part-time thesis or dissertation work and substitution of research hours. The following points were reviewed:

- Some members felt that thesis and dissertation should be treated separately from research hours.
- How much time should be allowed for a student to finish. Some felt that a student shouldn't sign up for less than 3 hours. Some felt that 1 hour was okay if it was their last semester, but not acceptable if it was ongoing. A 3 hour cap after all course work was finished was discussed. Tracy Jones indicated that it would be difficult to implement this.
- Some felt that the enrollment statement indicating "students wishing to enroll in part-time hours should consult with their adviser" needed clarification.
- This issue is tied to the continuous enrollment policy.

The committee asked if there were any statistics on the number of students enrolled in part-time thesis, dissertation and research hours. Tracy will pull the data for the committee to inform further discussion.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.