

# UCF Graduate Council

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## GRADUATE POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

### Minutes of February 23, 2011 meeting

#### Members Present

Patricia Bishop, Ratna Chakrabarti, Stephanie Guittar, Jim Moharam, Eduardo Mucciolo, Paul Rompf, Eladio Scharron, Michael Stern, Vicky Zygouris-Coe

#### Recorder

Rhonda Nelson

Members present: Patricia Bishop, Ratna Chakrabarti, Stephanie Guittar, Jim Moharam, Eduardo Mucciolo, Paul Rompf, Eladio Scharron, Michael Stern, Vicky Zygouris-Coe

**Call to order.** Dr. Moharam called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was established.

The minutes of the meeting held on February 9 were reviewed and approved.

#### Scholarly Integrity/Responsible Conduct of Research:

A copy of the approved resolution and supporting policy statement was distributed. Dr. Moharam reminded the committee that the resolution was approved at the last meeting pending inclusion of the changes that were discussed; the resolution would be submitted as an agenda item for the next meeting of the Faculty Senate Steering Committee.

The committee continued discussion on the updated draft of the supporting policy statement, and agreed to categorize the workshops as either core or "additional." Dr. Bishop informed the committee that no additional funds have been committed to compensate the workshop leaders for participating in this effort. Dr. Bishop further indicated that a workshop website would be available some time in June or July. The updated draft of the supporting policy statement was approved by unanimous vote. Dr. Stern will update the policy with the additional changes.

#### Half-time T/D enrollment definition for the Office of Student Financial Assistance:

Discussion was held on the updated draft to the policy language concerning thesis and dissertation enrollment requirements, and the committee agreed to delete the last sentence of the thesis enrollment portion. A motion was made and carried to approve the policy as amended. Dr. Moharam indicated that the changes to this policy would be considered a clarification and would not need to go through the Steering Committee. Dr. Bishop indicated that the Graduate College would make the changes to the graduate catalog.

#### Non-degree admission and dismissal policies:

Dr. Stern reviewed the current policies governing the academic status of graduate students enrolled as non-degree students. Applicants are admitted to this status provided they have completed a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution in the United States or a recognized international institution. Non-degree students are dismissed if their graduate status GPA falls below 2.0. Since undergraduate courses are not calculated into a student's graduate status GPA, poor performance in undergraduate classes does not currently constitute grounds for dismissal. Dr. Stern distributed an outline of the current policies governing admission, dismissal, and readmission of non-degree students and some possible changes being brought to the committee for discussion. One of the changes proposed was to monitor non-degree students' cumulative GPA in addition to their graduate status GPA and dismiss students if either of these falls below 2.0. This would monitor performance in both graduate and undergraduate courses. A number of student situation scenarios relating to these issues were discussed, as well as the constraints that policy changes would place on the admission and readmission of non-degree students. Dr. Stern indicated that there were about 1,000 students in non-degree status currently, including some students enrolled in graduate certificate programs. Certain certificate programs monitor the academic status of their students. Dr. Moharam suggested focusing on dismissal policies, since this measures a student's current performance rather than past performance. This policy will be discussed further at the next meeting.

#### Other business:

A decision was made to cancel the March 9 meeting since it fell during spring break week. The next scheduled meeting will be March 23.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

