Graduate Council Minutes

September 12, 2011

Members Present: Gwendolyn Jones Harold (Chair), Richard Pearce-Moses, Craig Hill, Deborah Deckner, Patricia Smith, Greg McNamara, Mari Roberts, Robert Vaughan, Tom McIlwain, Celeste Wally-Jean, Betty Lane, Lynn Stover, and William Hong.

Members Not Present: Judith Ogden and Linda Nash

Guest: Antoinette Miller

Meeting called to order by Dean Harold at 2:00 p.m.

Dean Harold asked Council members for any additions or modifications to the agenda. No additions or modifications to the agenda were requested.

Minutes from the August 8, 2011, Graduate Council meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Pearce-Moses, seconded by McIlwain, and approved by the Council.

Antoinette Miller, president of Faculty Senate, spoke to Council members about structuring a formal relationship between Graduate Council and Faculty Senate. The Council discussed various models, for fostering such a relationship between Faculty Senate and Graduate, employed by various other universities in the Georgia System. These models include variations of the following: Graduate Council would report to Faculty Senate, maintaining a parallel structure similar to Faculty Senate, or Graduate Council would be a subcommittee of Faculty Senate. Suggestions from Council members for an immediate resolution included updating the Graduate Council by-laws to allow a Faculty Senate representative, who is also a graduate faculty member, to serve as an ex-officio member of Graduate Council. Council members also considered having both a graduate faculty and a graduate student handbook would be helpful to educate the university community on graduate policies and procedures.

A subcommittee for revising the Graduate Council by-laws was created: members are Greg McNamara, Mari Roberts, Patricia Smith and Richard Pearce-Moses. No decisions on the type of relationship between Graduate Council and Faculty Senate were made and the discussion will resume at the next Graduate Council meeting.

Deborah Deckner provided Council members with updates on the Graduate Council/Faculty Senate relationships at comparable USG institutions. Her findings indicate that most universities have a codified relationship between Graduate Council and Faculty Senate, but these relationships vary widely among institutions. Robert Vaughan confirmed that the BOR does not proscribe a specific method for creating this type of relationship. A subcommittee consisting of Celeste Wally-Jean, Betty Lane, Craig Hill, Deborah Deckner and William Hong was formed to further examine how other USG schools have developed this type of relationship, to assess these methods, and then to post recommendations for structuring a formal relationship here at CSU.

Also Council members were asked to send their recommendations of which items Graduate Council should retain control over and what items we could potentially share with Faculty Senate. Council members were asked to send this information to Celeste Wally-Jean.

The subcommittee will report their findings at the next Graduate Council meeting.

The Council reviewed and acted on the graduate faculty applications listed below:

* Patricia Todebush (Ph.D.), College of Arts and Sciences (Full Status) – recommendation to approve was made by Deckner, seconded by Wally-Jean, and approved by the Council.
* Terri Summers (Ph.D.), College of Health (Associate Status) – recommendation to approve was made by Lane, seconded by McIlwain, and approved by the Council.
* Erica Gannon (Ph.D.), College of Arts and Sciences (Full Status) – recommendation to approve was made by Pearce-Moses, seconded by Deckner, and approved by the Council.
* Charlie Harris (Ph.D.), College of Arts and Sciences (Full Status) – recommendation to approve was made by Deckner, seconded by Roberts, and approved by the Council.
* Samuel Maddox (Ph.D.), College of Arts and Sciences (Full Status) – recommendation to approve was made by McIlwain, seconded by Lane, and approved by the Council.
* Patricia Smith (Ph.D.), College of Arts and Sciences (Full Status) – application tabled until the next meeting. Her administrative status was approved by Deckner, seconded by Roberts, and approved by the Council.

Greg McNamara presented a degree program change for the MALS program. He recommended removing ENGL 5100 Critical Theory as a required course in the English track. McNamara indicated there was sufficient theory taught in other MALS English courses to satisfy the need for students’ introduction to theory. A recommendation to approve the changes was made by Deckner, seconded by Roberts, and approved by all.

Mari Roberts presented a course proposal change for EDUC 5102: MAT Practicum. The change will streamline the requirements for the practicum enrollment: EDUC 5102 (1 hr) Practicum I, and EDUC 5201 (1 hr) Practicum II would be merged to create a single course, EDUC 5102 MAT Practicum (2 hrs). The course is designed for candidates to observe, participate in, and reflect upon experiential learning in public school classrooms. A recommendation to approve the changes were made by Wally-Jean, seconded by Lane, and approved by all.

Council members requested that any future proposals for changes to courses or degree programs should first be approved by the respective college or school curriculum committee. A letter indicating the committee’s approval should accompany the proposal submitted to Graduate Council.

Dean Harold discussed the need to identify each college’s curriculum committee and their respective charges; these committees will be listed on the School of Graduate Studies website and the respective college websites. The Arts and Sciences curriculum committee is listed on their website. Hong indicated he will send the CIMS information, McIlwain will send information about the MBA advisory and MHA committees, Lane will send information on the College of Health committee. Each person indicated he/she will forward the information to Dean Harold by October 1.

The admission deadline and transcript requirements were tabled as the agenda ran long.

Announcements

* Dean Harold indicated she was working on the Graduate Program Director job description and will send electronically for members input.
* Dean Harold indicated the graduate diploma size will be reduced starting fall 2011. The decision was made to decrease costs and time.
* Betty Lane gave members an update on the MSN collaboration between Clayton State and Columbus State.
* Dean Harold asked Council members to review the list of graduate fairs and to let her know in the next week or so which fair they would like to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Elizabeth Taylor