

Graduate Faculty Council

MINUTES

March 19, 2008

Hugh Clark Meeting Room -- Whetten Graduate Center, Room 200
3:00 P.M.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:04 P.M. Vice Provost Gregory J. Anderson presided.
2. The members present introduced themselves.
3. It was **moved**, seconded, and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote to approve as distributed the minutes of the meeting of October 17, 2007. There was one abstention.
4. It was **moved**, seconded, and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote to adopt the following resolution:

AUTHORIZATION TO CONFER GRADUATE DEGREES --

It is recommended that the degrees of Master of Arts, Master of Business Administration, Master of Dental Science, Master of Engineering, Master of Fine Arts, Master of Music, Master of Professional Studies, Master of Public Administration, Master of Public Health, Master of Science, Master of Social Work, Doctor of Audiology, Doctor of Education, Doctor of Musical Arts, Doctor of Philosophy, and Doctor of Physical Therapy be conferred upon those candidates who have satisfied all requirements and have been duly certified by the Graduate School for award of said degrees throughout the conferral periods ending in May, August, and December 2008.

5. An election was held to fill one seat on the GFC Executive Committee for a three-year term. The term of J. Garry Clifford, representative from Political Science, has expired. J. Garry Clifford was nominated. It was **moved** (E. Schultz), seconded, and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote to close nominations. Clifford was elected.
6. E. Schultz **moved** to remove from the table the Resolution on Author Rights and the Institutional Repository. The motion was seconded and it **passed** without dissent on a voice vote.

G. Anderson noted that the Executive Committee had discussed the matter in depth and had prepared a revised version of the resolution to present as a **seconded motion** to the full Council. The revised wording was distributed with the agenda.

Schultz explained the differences between the two versions. Discussion ensued and focused primarily on author responsibilities and the gatekeeper function. L. Strausbaugh recommended that the corresponding author should accept the responsibility to check with the other authors on a publication and verify with the gatekeeper that proper procedures had been followed.

A. Albert **moved to amend** the motion to insert the word "publications" in item two of the revised wording. The motion to amend was seconded and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote.

There was a call for the vote on the motion as amended, with the wording of the resolution now as follows:

RESOLUTION ON AUTHOR RIGHTS AND THE INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORY

Whereas:

Too often, and too easily, authors sign away all rights when submitting a paper for publication. By doing so, they grant the publisher a monopoly on the distribution of their research, unnecessarily and severely restricting the audience for that research. Authors can retain certain rights to their work by the use of an "author's amendment" attached to any publisher agreement they sign, specifying which rights the author retains, and which rights are given to the publisher. A simple amendment form, provided by the Office of the Attorney General, is available for the University community at www.lib.uconn.edu/authorrights/amendment.html.

The Libraries have initiated a project to gather, store, preserve, and provide open access to the intellectual output of the University of Connecticut system, via an online institutional repository, *DigitalCommons@UConn*. The repository greatly enhances the visibility and accessibility of our research, removing the financial barriers

often imposed by the traditional system of scholarly communication. The reach and impact, as well as the long term availability, of our output can be vastly increased by participation in the project.

Be it then resolved that the Graduate Faculty Council:

1) Encourages all faculty, staff, and graduate students of the University of Connecticut to use a means such as the author's amendment to retain certain copyrights, including the right to post their articles, book chapters, conference papers, in an institutional or other online repository.

2) And, also encourages all faculty, staff, and graduate students of the University of Connecticut to deposit an electronic version of their research publications with DigitalCommons@UConn, the University of Connecticut's institutional repository, whenever legally possible.

[Note: A similar resolution was passed at the University Senate meeting on February 9, 2004.]

The amended motion **passed** on a voice vote without dissent and with one abstention.

7. A recent proposal to charge the tuition of graduate assistants to grants was introduced as a topic for consideration and discussion. G. Anderson presented the following as a **seconded motion** from the Executive Committee:

It is the sense of the Graduate Faculty Council that the introduction of tuition for graduate assistants would adversely affect the programs of the Graduate School and is inconsistent with key goals of the draft Academic Plan. We agree with and support the position of the Research Advisory Council statement regarding these waivers.

We therefore urge that the policy of waiving tuition be continued.

During the course of discussion, it was noted that the Biomedical Science Program Committee at the Health Center had voted to endorse the Research Advisory Council statement referred to in the motion.

The motion **passed** without dissent on a voice vote. It was agreed to convey the Council's action in this matter to the President, the Provost, and to the Chair of the Senate Executive Committee.

8. J. Henkel reported that the number of applications for admission to graduate programs received and processed during the current academic year is very nearly 8,000. He noted that applications are being received at a record-setting pace this admissions cycle, that applicant quality is up, and that the acceptance rate of applicants stands between 10% and 20%. There was discussion about developing the capability to implement on-line letters of recommendation.
9. G. Anderson noted that he has learned that there will be a delay at least until September 2008 in the release of any results of the NRC rankings of doctoral programs.
10. G. Anderson and J. Henkel spoke about major progress in the area of diversity programs and recruitment.
11. John DeWolf, Chair of the Senate Executive Committee, updated the Council on the recent activities of the Senate, particularly in the areas of academic integrity and administrative reorganization.
12. Adjournment was at 4:10 P.M.

Present: W. Abikoff, H. Aguila, A. Anderson, W. Bailey, J. Bobaljik, H. Brody, C. Clark, J. G. Clifford, J. Cole, R. Cusson, A. Donahue, D. Gregorio, J. Kaminski, T. Kehle, J. Linnekin, J. Madaus (alt), E. Markus, C. Michaels, J. Nardi (alt), F. Nichols, T. J. Peters, G. Risatti, M. Rubio, C. Schaefer, E. Schultz, L. Strausbaugh, C.A. VanLear, B. Zhang; A. Albert (*Executive Committee*), M.A. Doyle (*Executive Committee*), G. Anderson (*Vice Provost*), J. Henkel (*Associate Vice Provost*), T.B. Peters (*Program Director*)

Not attending: M. Bernstein, T. Blank, M. Bock, V. Duffy, G. Dunne, M.L. Fernandez, A. Frogley, N. Garrick, J. Glaz, W. Glenn, R. Grenier, C. Havens, T. Hla, T. Hunter, O. Karan, W. Kraemer, B. Liu, R. Lopez, A. Maurudis, T. Miceli, W. Mohler, R.B. Morrill, R. Parnas, G. Powell, G. Robbins, M. Rudnicki, T. Seery, G. Semenza, C.F. Sirmans, G. Taylor, T. Torgerson, J. Troyer, K. Venkitanarayanan, A. Vias, S. Winter

Speaker: John T. DeWolf, *Chair of the Senate Executive Committee*

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas B. Peters
Program Director