

Executive Committee
of the
Graduate Faculty Council

MINUTES

September 12, 2007
Whetten Graduate Center – Giolas Conference Room
3:00 P.M.

1. The meeting was called to order. Vice Provost Gregory J. Anderson presided.
2. G. Anderson introduced Jean Marsden from English, who will be serving on the Executive Committee while David Cournoyer is Acting Dean of Social Work, and Lawrence Klobutcher, recently-appointed Associate Dean of the Graduate School – Health Center, who will be serving as an *ex officio* member of the Executive Committee replacing Gerald Maxwell.

Anderson also noted that long-time Committee member Emilio Pagoulatos has retired from the University. The Graduate Faculty Council will elect (at the October meeting) a new member to complete his term.

3. It was **moved**, seconded, and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote to approve as distributed the minutes of the May 16, 2007 meeting.
4. It was **moved**, seconded, and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote to approve the list of Plans of Study and Dissertation Proposals.
5. J. Henkel updated members concerning the development of a set of metrics to be used in presenting data across the array of Graduate School programs and Fields of Study. Initially, the focus will be on doctoral programs and students. He distributed and discussed a handout which illustrates metrics in the areas of application and matriculation rates for students new to doctoral programs, applicant cohort quality, diversity, and time to degree. Ann Wilhelm, VPRGE Database Manager, participated in the discussion. As a result of the discussion, it was agreed to include a separate category for graduate students who earned their undergraduate degrees from UConn.
6. G. Anderson called attention to a chapter of a book by Terrence MacTaggart, Chancellor of the University of Maine System, entitled *Academic Turnarounds* recently published by the American Council on Education. The chapter includes references to UConn.
7. J. Henkel provided an update concerning the development of a Web-based Graduate Degree Program Inventory database.
8. Members considered a proposal from the School of Nursing to implement a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program. It was **moved** (E. Schultz) and seconded (J.G. Clifford) to approve the proposed new degree program.

J. Henkel noted that the proposal is for a clinical rather than a research degree program research which requires 36 credits beyond the master's degree. The proposal calls for two new faculty members. These positions are to be supported by tuition dollars generated by Nursing's MbEIN certificate program. The curriculum includes a final project. It was noted that the proposal should specify that five (rather than three) members of the faculty are to be involved in examinations to maintain consistency with other doctoral programs. And, the specified minimum TOEFL score requirement needs to reflect the current scale used for this examination.

Following discussion, the motion to approve the proposal **passed** without dissent on a voice vote.

9. Members considered a proposed Maternity Leave Policy for Graduate Assistants. It was **moved** (J.G. Clifford) and seconded (A. Albert) to present the proposed policy to the Graduate Faculty Council for adoption. It was agreed to separate the text of the policy from the recommendations for implementation that were included in the proposal. The motion **passed** without dissent on a voice vote.

10. Members considered the revised text of the draft document *Graduate School Grievance Procedures*. It was **moved** (J.G. Clifford) and seconded (E. Schultz) to present the revised draft document to the Graduate Faculty Council for adoption. Members agreed to minor editorial changes in Steps Three and Four to make the four sections of the document consistent. Following discussion, the motion **passed** without dissent on a voice vote.
11. There was discussion about efforts to develop a Strategic Plan for the Graduate School. J. Henkel spoke about the major elements included in the plan. G. Anderson noted that Committee members A. Albert and D. Cournoyer had volunteered to help over the summer to develop the plan.
12. It was agreed to call a meeting of the Graduate Faculty Council for September 19, 2007.
13. There were several updates and announcements.
14. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 P.M.

Present: W. Abikoff, A. Albert, J. Barnes-Farrell, J. G. Clifford, J. Marsden, E. Schultz, G. Anderson (*Vice Provost*), J. Henkel (*Associate Vice Provost*), L. Klobutcher (*Associate Dean*), and T. Peters (*Program Director*)

Regrets: M. A. Doyle

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas B. Peters
Program Director