

Graduate Council Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 23, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Roberson at 12:21 p.m. Members in attendance: Buchwalter, Candler, Chant, Eggen, Haley, Jordan, Kasten, Russac, Shaw, Zhan, Richardson, Martin, Roberson, Kapcio

Dr. Roberson welcomed members and began a power point presentation of agenda items. He introduced the Graduate School staff changes that took place over the past month. Lilith Richardson replaced Kiersten Jarvis as the Assistant Director of the Graduate School and serves as the new point of contact for admissions-related questions. Also in the past month, Melissa Crymes joined the staff as a new admissions processor. Dr. Roberson requested that Graduate Council members introduce themselves, particularly the college and program that they represent. The minutes from the September meeting were distributed and approved.

Dr. Roberson explained that today's agenda items are issues solicited from members at the kick-off meeting in September. He referred to the power point presentation that featured an outline detailing the timeline and process for the Graduate Academic Learning Compacts (formerly Graduate Learning Outcomes) for 2010-2011. Attached to the agenda is a copy of a memorandum from Dr. Roberson to all Graduate Program Directors stating the new GALC policy. Graduate Academic Learning Compacts are required of each formal graduate program (each major) and must include the following: Program Mission Statement, Learning Outcomes for program graduates, Curriculum Map, Identified types of assessments, and Assessment plan (four-year cycle). GALC drafts are due March 11, 2011 in Microsoft Word (a template will be provided) and the final is due in August 2011.

Dr. Roberson introduced the next agenda item; GRE entrance exams, specifically the question whether programs can choose *not* to require a graduate entrance exam. Dr. Roberson posted the current Board of Governors Rule 6.003. He also summarized the University of Central Florida graduate entrance requirements, which do not require an entrance examination for admission and allow graduate programs to establish other requirements for admission. If UNF were to adopt a similar scenario, programs desiring to remove the GRE requirement would need to submit any proposals for differing admission criteria to the Graduate Dean for approval. Dr. Roberson opened the discussion to members. Dr. Roberson suggested that UNF needs to have an entrance exam policy in place for masters applicants and therefore, now is the time to make changes and defer that decision back to the program level.

Dr. Roberson requested that members go back to investigate at the department level and the Graduate Council will discuss the issue again at the January meeting; look at peer schools and aspirants and then decide whether to go forward. Dr. Roberson said a new policy if adopted would go into effect for the next term prior to admitting students and that no vote is necessary today. Dr. Roberson requested that members please bring feedback on entrance requirements to the January meeting. He will discuss the issue with the Provost and check other schools as above (peers and aspirants).

Dr. Roberson opened the floor for any additional issues or agenda items for next month's meeting. He suggested an issue previously submitted in September regarding the definitions of "active" and "currently enrolled" student status as they relate to library privileges. Also at the January meeting, members should expect to look at the new GRE. Dr. Roberson will bring back more information about the GRE changes (such as the new highest score of 360) from an upcoming graduate school conference trip to DC. For more information on the new GRE, see the ETS site at www.ETS.org/updates.

The next meeting of the Graduate Council will be on Tues., Jan. 25, 2010 at 12:15 p.m. in the President's Conference Room.

Dr. Roberson adjourned the meeting at 12:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Patrice Kapiro