

Graduate Council Minutes  
March 28, 2013

Members in attendance: Kasten, Kavan, Vose, Gilg, Stanley, Shaw, Zoellner, Christie, Hallblade, Schonning, Candler, Roberson, Reigger, Kapcio

Guests in attendance: Campbell (CCB), Elfayoumy (CCEC),

Dr. Roberson called the meeting to order at 12:23 pm.

Dr. Roberson made a call for any announcements from the programs/departments and there were none.

Packets were distributed to each member and contained the following items: the agenda, copies of minutes from the Jan. 2013 and Oct. 2012 meetings, the Second Masters Residency Requirement Amended Policy, and a four page handout summarizing the Theses/Dissertation changes which will take place beginning in the fall 2013 term. Dr. Roberson requested that members review the minutes. A motion (Stanley) was made to accept the minutes as written for both the Jan. 2013 and Oct. 2012 meetings. The motion was seconded (Christie) and approved unanimously.

The amended Second Masters Residency Requirement policy was sent to Council members via email two weeks prior to the meeting for review. Dr. Roberson explained that SACS accreditation standards mandate that UNF adhere to the 30 hour minimum and the policy was clarified to reflect the mandate. Members discussed the minimum requirement and clarified (Kavan) that programs which have a specific requirement written into the program's policy are exempt from this policy. A motion (Christie) to approve the amendment to the Second Masters Residency Requirement was seconded (Elfayoumy) and approved unanimously.

Dr. Roberson reviewed the upcoming changes to UNF's Thesis & Dissertation requirements which will begin fall term 2013. He specifically referenced recent examples of student theses submitted with no permission noted for using copyrighted material. The Graduate School has held and will continue to hold student information sessions to provide students with help and information about the process, the requirements and changes.

Dr. Roberson turned over to Lilith for information about upcoming graduate student events. A Graduate School Open House is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9 at the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) in downtown Jacksonville to attract prospective students from the companies, hospitals, school systems and industry in and around the westside and downtown areas. Lilith thanked programs/departments for sending updates on contact & program information which was used to create flyers highlighting specific programs. The Graduate School places ad campaigns on local radio stations, and sent flyers directly to contacts at area businesses/hospitals, etc. Graduate Program Directors are encouraged to attend or to designate a faculty member or graduate student (or alumni) to attend in his/her place. Lilith

described the planned set-up for the lobby area of MOCA. Garage and on-street parking are available, and light refreshments will be served. Dr. Roberson stressed that the key to the event is the opportunity for prospective students to talk with faculty representatives from the degree programs, so programs need to let the Graduate School know who will attend for each program. This type of event will be repeated in May on campus for UNF upper level undergraduates and outside prospects as well. Members discussed the increased need to publicize UNF graduate degree programs, citing examples such as the Biology ads which run regularly on the local National Public Radio station. Dr. Roberson suggested partnering among the college deans to run promotions that benefit more than just one program and help to defray the cost. He will take the idea to Deans Council next week. Ideas for various promotional opportunities were shared among members. Dr. Roberson offered that the Graduate School can dedicate staff to help with these ideas and to coordinate efforts.

Lilith presented plans to start a 3MT program (3 Minute Thesis) which will complement a new Graduate Research Day event to be held in conjunction with the annual Undergraduate Research Day each spring. The graduate event would take place on a Thursday, the day before the undergraduate event always held on Friday. The 3MT competition would be planned as part of the graduate day. A link on the Graduate School website will provide information for thesis students to learn about and plan for the competition. The goal is to get the administration involved and prominent community members to participate as judges. Dr. Roberson played a video featuring recent 3MT winner Tim Parris from Queensland, Australia where the 3MT competition originated. The University of Georgia recently held a 3MT competition and the winners presented at the annual meeting of the Conference of Southern Graduate Deans which Dr. Roberson attended. He noted that only some of the Florida state university schools plan to participate. The first year will feature students who volunteer to participate. The event has the potential to attract media attention and can involve community, city, or state government. Please encourage your students to consider this event. The Graduate School will hold workshops in the fall to help students improve communication skills and prepare a presentation.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.