Graduate Council Minutes No. 1008

December 8, 2011

Present: Bauman, Caswell, Clayton, Coon, Czarnetzki (for Iqbal), Bartlett, Botzum, Etscheidt, Hays, Husband, Licari, Nelson, Pohl, Power, Schuchart

Absent: Bartlett, Waldron (on PDA)

Guest: Susie Schwieger

The meeting was called to order by Chair Clayton. Motion by Etscheidt to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2011 meeting; seconded by Husband. Motion approved.

Licari reported that the Board of Regents had approved the 2012-2013 Professional Development Assignment requests. Licari extended his congratulations to all of those who were awarded PDA’s. He mentioned that PDA requests are a bit of a concern, as these requests have been increasingly scrutinized by the Board of Regents, members of the legislature and the general public. He added that the Board of Regents had positive comments about the utility of PDA’s and made it clear that a PDA is not a sabbatical, which is a common misconception of the general public. Rather, a PDA is actually a reallocation of workload where the faculty member uses the semester to work on a project instead of teaching.

Coon reported that she sent an e-mail to graduate students and coordinators updating them on the progress of student requests.

Schwieger reported that planning for the 5th Annual Graduate Student Research Symposium is moving along. The symposium will take place on Tuesday, March 27, 2012, with the oral presentations taking place from Noon to 4:00 in the lower level of the Union and the poster presentations from Noon to 2:00 in the Ballroom of the Union. If remodeling of the ballroom is not finished by the date of the symposium, the Commons Ballroom would be the alternate location. Creative performances will take place from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in Davis Hall in the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center. Schwieger added that in January and early February, there will be workshops for students on how to prepare for the symposium.

On January 25 at 4:00 in the CME, Rebecca Anthony and William Coghill Behrends from the University of Iowa will be on campus to conduct a workshop on CV’s. Anthony and Coghill Behrends are authors of a recent book on CV writing. They do not want the workshop to be taped however they will provide a brief portion of the workshop for posting. Students, faculty and staff will be welcome to come.

Schwieger noted that program coordinators should have received an e-mail from her requesting information to be used in developing program recruitment pieces. She expressed her appreciation for the information she has received. With the variety of information and formats received, and keeping in mind that UNI is competing with what other schools have to offer, the goal of this project would be to brand our materials more effectively. Licari added that a one-page template is being designed for use at recruitment fairs. There would be space for specific program information and although the content would be different for each program, the layout of the material would be the same. The layout of the program sheets at recruiting fairs would look professional and
consistent, with the content to be provided by the coordinators. Licari said he would rely on the coordinators to provide the program information for the template since coordinators would know this information best.

After some discussion, it was agreed that it would be beneficial to have some differentiation between each college’s program material in order to help attract a prospective student’s attention. It was noted that there will be an area on the program sheet that will highlight what alumni are doing. Licari mentioned that the Graduate College currently has a one-page sheet that lists program names, contact information and a links to online program information. He added that students who attend recruiting fairs tend to be looking for more at that moment types of information. Schwieger responded that with what other universities have to offer at these types of fairs, we would need to include solid program information on this recruiting piece.

Nelson reported that there was a very good turnout for Chris Larimer’s brown bag presentation which was the first in the series. The topic was one that generated interest and there were good questions and comments. Nelson asked if the brown bag presenters are acknowledged in any way. Licari responded that he follows up with the speakers.

Implementation of the Graduate Education Strategic Plan – Task Force Updates
Clayton reminded everyone that at the last meeting two task forces were formed in order to pursue implementation of the strategic planning process. Clayton said she has the notes from students that were part of the information gathering process. She does not have the faculty input but thought Waldron would have that information. The student information would allow the task forces to move forward in January. Clayton thanked Bauman for agreeing to serve on a task force and Clayton added that she would be getting the first task force together; Nelson would work with the second task force, starting in the spring semester.

Curriculum Packets
Coon distributed a summary of the graduate curriculum proposals from the remaining three departments for the 2012-2014 Catalog (see attached summary of the remaining graduate curriculum proposals approved by GCCC).

College of Humanities, Arts & Sciences – Humanities & Arts
English – The current degree includes three emphases in Literature, Creative Writing, and Teaching English in Secondary Schools. Part of the proposal was to move Teaching English in Secondary Schools to a standalone MA. There would be a new emphasis in the English MA, which would be the English Studies MA. Instead of emphasis in one particular area, this would give students a broader choice for electives and would allow students to do some literature, some professional writing, some creative writing, etc. Coon noted that the restatement also includes a list of possible electives, so there would not be a need for as many student requests. The new TESOL certificate was not specifically a graduate certificate, but all of the courses are 100g-level or above, so it can be taken as a graduate certificate. One 6000-level course, 19th Century Literature, was added that was formerly a 200-level course and had not been offered to due to lack of faculty. Changes were made in four courses in the “Craft of” area to delineate how many credits a student could take as an undergraduate and then as a graduate student, since there are issues with repeating courses that have a limit on the number of hours.
Husband made a motion to approve the curricular changes for the Department of Languages and Literatures; seconded by Pohl. Motion passed unanimously.

College of Humanities, Arts & Sciences – Sciences
Industrial Technology – Hays made a motion to approve the curricular changes for the Department of Industrial Technology; seconded by Pohl.

The MS in Technology will have a larger common core and instead of seven emphases, there will be three which they feel will help them in recruiting students and conserving faculty resources. The reasoning for the proposal to rename the Doctor of Industrial Technology degree to Doctor of Technology is that in the field, the word Industrial has become somewhat of a negative; the national certification agency has removed the word Industrial from its title and so the department is trying to follow that trend. A restructuring of the core courses for the Doctor of Technology allowed for a reduction of 4 hours in the total degree. It had previously been one of the longest degrees on campus. Regarding the admission/exit requirements the main issue of clarification was that students would only be admitted for fall semester and some additional clarifications regarding if students are admitted provisionally and the time frame they have in which to meet those provisions. Coon also mentioned the dropped courses, new courses and said that the course changes were mainly course titles and descriptions.

Licari noted that he was copied on an e-mail to Jim Maxwell, head of Industrial Technology, from Craig Klafter, associate provost for International Programs, indicating that changing the name of the Doctor of Industrial Technology (DIT) to Doctor of Technology might have international recruiting implications; countries and governments might not recognize Doctor of Technology as a degree that would be certified in their country in terms of being able to help pay for students to travel here to seek that degree. Licari did not have all the details of the process, but told Klafter he would pass the concern along to the Council. Coon asked if there was general concern regarding changing degree titles or DIT specifically. Licari responded that the concern was specific to DIT. Klafter has a U.S. State Department list that shows internationally recognized certifications; Doctor of Industrial Technology is on the list, however Doctor of Technology is not. Coon noted that about a year ago she did a web search and UNI has the only DIT program in the country, although there are many Doctor of Technology programs. Licari said there had been some interest in recruiting from technical high schools in Germany and the concern is the Doctor of Technology degree might not be recognized.

A question was raised about what the engineering and business faculties at Iowa and Iowa State would say about the title Doctor of Technology. Licari responded that there is a process the name change would need to go through and Iowa and Iowa State would weigh in on the name change. In general, Licari did not think there would be a concern. It was mentioned that there may be some concern about the program being duplicative and there would not be resources for such a program. Clayton stated it isn’t just a matter of changing the name of an emphasis, it is changing degrees and there would need to be standards to follow. Licari said that when the department was talking at the GCCC meetings, accreditation was mentioned. Coon added that the accrediting body actually took the word Industrial out of its name, so the accrediting body would not have an issue with the change. She again mentioned that UNI has the only DIT program in the country. Coon said she did not get the sense that the department was trying to restructure or expand the scope of the degree; the changes made to the
degree requirements were to consolidate some courses students had said were duplicative. It was noted that this would open up some possibilities for the College of Business and Computer Science to possibly participate, since they offer technology programs and there is no doctorate program. Clayton asked if there was further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences  
School of Applied Human Sciences - Coon explained that there are cases where students earn their degree in either Mental Health Counseling or School Counseling and then wish to go on to get an endorsement in the other program. Since there is a six-hour internship required for both programs and the current catalog only allows for one six-hour internship during the first degree, the department is changing the maximum number of internship hours.

Pohl made a motion to approve curricular changes for the School of Applied Human Sciences; seconded by Bauman. Motion passed unanimously.

Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology  
Both the MA in Sociology and Criminology will add a non-thesis option. In Sociology, the non-thesis option will be called an Emphasis in College Teaching, aimed at those who are interested in teaching at the community college or four-year college level with a Master's Degree. In Criminology, the option will be called Applied Studies. Because the nature of the field tends to be in the applied area there ultimately wasn’t a large number of students using the thesis option and the department feels the non-thesis option will be a big draw for the program. As part of the restructuring the department wants to increase the core common to both degrees which will help with faculty resources. Coon overviewed the new and dropped courses and mentioned that other housekeeping type changes would be made to a number of courses.

Pohl made a motion to approve curricular changes for the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology; seconded by Husband. Motion passed unanimously.

Clayton informed everyone that she and Nelson are representing the Graduate Council on the committee that will conduct President Allen’s five-year review. The review was something that was developed by the University Faculty Senate a number of years ago. Also serving on the committee are James Jurgenson, chair of the faculty; Jeff Funderburk, chair of the faculty senate and Jeff will also chair the committee, and Gene Lutz will be serving ex-officio. If anyone has comments, questions or concerns they can contact Clayton or Nelson.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, January 12, 2012 at 3:30 p.m. in Lang 115.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Nedrow  
Secretary