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University of Northern Iowa Graduate Council Minutes, October 25, 2007

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UNI Graduate Council Minutes #967

October 25, 2007
The Graduate Council

UNI Graduate Council Minutes No. 967

Thursday, October 25, 2007, 3:30 p.m. Lang Hall 115

Present: Christ, DeFrancisco, DeSoto, Jurgenson, Leutzinger, Marshall, Pohl, Wurtz

Absent: Etscheidt, Harton, Joseph, Nelson, Moon, Waldron

1. Approval of the minutes from October 11, 2007

Jurgenson moved to approve the minutes and Marshall seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as distributed.

2. Graduate College Reports

DeFrancisco reported:

The names of the faculty who have been selected for a 2008-2009 Professional Development Assignment were submitted to the Provost and will be forwarded to the Board of Regents for final approval.

Several submissions were received for the Outstanding Master's Thesis, Research Paper and Dissertation Award. The committees are in the process of selecting the winners for the various awards.

Two volunteers are needed to serve on the Distinguished Scholar selection committee. Marshall and Christ agreed to serve on the committee.

Dr. James McCullagh, Professor of Social Work, requested an item be placed on the agenda after it was distributed. McCullagh had submitted a request to Dean Joseph asking that an individual be granted temporary graduate status even though she doesn't hold a baccalaureate degree. Joseph declined to act on the request but suggested he take the request to the Graduate Council. DeFrancisco distributed copies of McCullagh's letter and a page from the Constitution of the Graduate Faculty outlining the process to request temporary appointments. After discussion, Pohl called for a vote to allow temporary graduate status for the individual in question. There were no ayes, five nays, and one abstention. DeFrancisco will notify McCullagh that temporary graduate status was not granted as he requested.

3. Chair of the Graduate Faculty Report

DeSoto reported that Trudy Eden is not available for a Brown Bag lecture in November; therefore, she has asked Samuel Gladden if he would consider presenting a lecture.

4. New Business

a. Graduate Program offerings via distance education platforms

Pohl submitted this topic for discussion by asking the question, "Does the Council want to encourage more departments to investigate offering courses/programs via distance education platforms?" After a lengthy discussion, suggestions were made such as: conducting a workshop sponsored by Continuing Education and ITS-Educational Technology to discuss alternative forms of distance education; research successful models of distance education; form a task force. Marshall and Leutzinger indicated interest in serving on a task force and Pohl will email graduate faculty asking for other volunteers to serve, also.

5. Old Business

a. Implementation Plans for Graduate Faculty Recognition Update

The ad hoc committee continues to discuss faculty recognition.

6. Other

DeSoto would like to recognize graduate faculty at the Annual Graduate Faculty meeting who have chaired multiple thesis and dissertation committees. After discussion, a suggestion was made to put this item on an upcoming agenda when additional Council members are in attendance.

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.