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University of Northern Iowa Graduate Council Minutes, March 28, 2002

Graduate Council, University of Northern Iowa.

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UNI Graduate Council Minutes #915

March 28, 2002

Present: Dolgener, Jackson, Mosher, Rajendran, Somervill, Utz, Walker, Weller (for Fogarty), Wong

Absent: Bozylinsky, Coulter, Hanson, Saiia, Smaldino, Wallingford

Visitors: Jim Bodensteiner - Continuing Education, Kent Johnson - Continuing Education, Jill Wallace - Associate Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

A correction was reported to Minutes #914. For now, departments interested in offering "Directed Research (XXX:259), must file an Experimental Course Form with the Office of the Registrar. Departments wanting to offer the course on a permanent basis will have to include it as a new course offering in their curriculum packer. It was suggested that the wording "see specific departments for a general description of this course" be inserted when XX:259 is added to the list of "Course Numbers Common to Many Departments" (page 174 of the current catalog). Minutes were approved as corrected.

The Council members received a final draft of the report of the Recommendations Re: Graduate Certificate Programs. Utz asked members of the Certificate Programs Committee whether they thought the availability of certificate programs might deter student enrollment in graduate programs. Bodensteiner stated that eh felt that certificate programs are market driven and that these programs might actually increase student enrollment in graduate programs. Johnson stated that the Committee wanted to make sure that the Graduate Council's policies and procedures were flexible and not as restrictive as those currently governing the development of new graduate programs.

Dolgener moved, seconded by Weller, to accept the final draft: Recommendations Re: Graduate Certificate Programs. The motion passed.

Jackson distributed data from the Registrar's office on non-degree graduate enrollment and GPA. The discussion of a minimum grade requirement for non-degree graduate students was tabled until a representative of the Registrar's office was able to explain the data distributed.

Somervill discussed a proposed amendment to the graduate assistantship policy, regarding tuition scholarships funded by external grants. Recently various grant agencies have changed their tuition policies, as usually grants do not allow the cost of tuition to be included into the sum of financing, and with the change, and they now allow tuition to be included. The new grant statement follows the lines that if a student drops the stipend, if that student is funded by a grant, the student must also forfeit the scholarship.

The proposed changes to the fall handbook would state under the Application for Graduate Tuition Scholarships and Graduate Assistant Stipends, Tuition Scholarships awards under externally funded grants will be allocated in the same proportion to time and effort as a Graduate Assistant Stipend. For example, a graduate assistant who receives a half-time stipend would be eligible for a maximum half-time tuition scholarship as well. Exceptions may be made only with written approval of the funding agency.

The proposed change to the Termination of a Graduate Tuition Scholarship or Graduate Assistant Stipend would be as follows, if a student holds both a Graduate Tuition Scholarship and a Graduate Assistant Stipend, the failure to perform work assignments for the Graduate Assistant Stipend normally cannot lead to termination of the Graduate Tuition Scholarship. However, Tuition Scholarships awarded under an externally funded grant may be terminated as well if required under the terms of the grant.

Discussion of the rough draft revision of the "Constitution of the Faculty of the University of Northern Iowa" as it related to graduate education led to the issue of whether there was a need for any word changes or direct separation. The Council tabled the issue until the final meeting, while taking the revised version back to peers for comment.

Wong announced that the Graduate Faculty meeting would be April 11 at 3:30 in Seerly 115. Walker announced that the Graduate College Newsletter is almost finished and will be distributed before the end of the year.

There were no items for publication.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Willits
Secretary