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University of Northern Iowa Graduate Council Minutes, September 13, 2001

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UNI Graduate Council Minutes #907

September 13, 2001

Present: Clayton, Coulter, Dolgener, East for Wallingford, Fogarty, Jackson, Janopoulous for Utz, Rajendran, Smaldino, Somervill, Utz, Walker, Wong,

Absent: Bozylinsky, Hanson, Saia

Action on minutes #906 were approved as published.

Walker invited council to the new faculty reception on Monday September 24 in the Georgian Lounge from 4-5. An RSVP is requested for the reception. There is a need for two council members on the Distinguished Scholar Committee. The members can be elected or the positions can be volunteered. Lastly, Walker announced the need for three committee members for the outstanding dissertation, four for the outstanding master's thesis, and four for the outstanding master's research paper committees.

Jackson announced two receptions to which the council is invited. First the Minority Graduate Student Reception on September 28 and second the International Graduate Student Reception on October 18 both in the Georgian Lounge, no RSVP is required.

East asked the council for nominations for the 2001-2002 officers. Smaldino nominated Eugene Wallingford for the Graduate Council Chair. Wong seconded and Wallingford was elected. Rajendran nominated Curtiss Hansen for Vice Chair of the Graduate Council. Coulter seconded and Hansen was elected. Rajendran volunteered to serve as Vice Chair if Hansen declines the nomination.

Wong brought up the subject of the budget cuts and asked how it would affect faculty travel. Somervill stated that when the budget cut arose he and Walker looked not only at travel but project grants, summer fellowship research support (not the stipend), and assistantships. Somervill did not want to cut graduate student assistantships. The money is simply not there; however, if the budget increases next year, the Graduate College will support faculty travel as normal. Somervill stated that the Graduate College always tries to accommodate faculty assuming that conference presentations are necessary. Graduate College travel support for 2001-2002 is limited to one trip as long as the faculty member is on the program of a professional meeting and the location is in North America. Fogarty asked the minutes to reflect that his request to Dean Somervill for an explanation of the principle behind the decision to limit international travel support was denied. There was discussion of how to distribute the remaining funds; i.e., should tenure-track faculty be given preference or should it be up to the colleges and departments to decide what travel is important. The council also discussed the process of allocating money for travel from the different colleges and departments. East then suggested that this subject be put on the agenda for the next meeting so it could be discussed after the council members could get opinions, suggestions, and questions from other faculty.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kiley Ingerslev
Secretary