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University of Northern Iowa Graduate Council Minutes, September 28, 2000

Graduate Council, University of Northern Iowa.

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UNI Graduate Council Minutes #897

September 28, 2000

Present: Bankston, Coulter, Jackson, Rajendran, Smaldino, Somervill, Vajpeyi, Walker, Wallingford, Wong

Absent: Bozylinsky, Clayton, Dolgener, Hanson, Utz, Wartick,

Visitors: Pam MacKay - Registrar's Office

Action on minutes #896 were approved as published

In the Graduate Dean's report he asked the Council to consider a representative from the Office of the Registrar be added as an Ex-Officio to the council. Bozylinsky from ITS is also an Ex-Officio and he attends when the need arises.

From 1995-2000 there has been no increase in the number of Assistantships. As of now, Academic Affairs has a request for sixty additional faculty to accommodate the increasing enrollment and to increase the percentage of tenured and tenure-track faculty involved in undergraduate teaching. Additional Assistantships have lower priority than the need for new faculty. Until further funding is available Somervill will be looking at programs with sustained growth in admissions to possibly reallocate funds. The Graduate Council will be consulted at a later time before any action will be taken.

Before considering a motion regarding communication of comprehensive exam results to the Registrar, Pam MacKay from the Registrar's Office was invited to speak to the Council. Pam mentioned that by requiring all exam results to be reported no later than three weeks before the end of the semester it allows time to process them and update the final graduation list. It is not a problem to get results at anytime during the semester; they just need to be in to the Registrar's Office three weeks prior to graduation.

Smaldino moved: Departments and programs need to report the positive or negative results of comprehensive exams to the Registrar's Office no later than three weeks prior to the end of finals week. Wong seconded, motion passed

During the formation of the Graduate Strategic Planning Committee it was suggested that officers of the Graduate Council make up the core of the committee along with a member of the Graduate College. Coulter moved: Create a Graduate Strategic Planning Committee consisting of the Graduate Council officers along with a member of the Graduate College. The motion was seconded and passed.

In selecting the Graduate Council representative to the Faculty Strategic Planning Committee it was decided that the chair will appoint a member after reviewing past members from the Council.

Coulter discussed graduate students' remote access to the library's electronic databases. She contacts the publishers with a list of people that are allowed remote access to update the license fee. The contract agreement states that only currently enrolled students may have access. Graduate students who have completed course work are not required to be enrolled so they are not able to have remote access to these databases. Two-thirds of the graduate students are only part-time students and do not want to pay a continuous enrollment fee. It was suggested to create a course number similar to the 190:300 course designated for Doctoral students for dissertation credit. Wallingford appointed a designee from the Registrar's Office along with Coulter and Jackson to meet and present a proposal at the next meeting.

Rajendran moved: Office of the Registrar to serve as an Ex-Officio member to the Graduate Council. Smaldino second, motion passed.

The Council discussed the rules on transfer credits from MA programs to Doctoral programs. In the past a student has been able to apply credits from a second MA degree to their Doctoral program. The question for discussion is can the credits be used if the second degree is already finished? According to existing guideline, if the student is not currently working toward a degree, the credits are open for consideration to transfer; meaning an unfinished second MA degree. Wallingford encouraged the Council to discuss the situation with their departments. Representatives from the Doctorate programs will be invited to the next meeting to discuss the situation further.

Announcements included an update from Walker about including part-time students in the nomination process for the Outstanding Graduate Faculty Teaching Award. It has been done.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Taya Ingerslev
Secretary