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University of Northern Iowa Graduate Council Minutes, March 26, 1998

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UNI Graduate Council Minutes #874

March 26, 1998

Present: Bruess, Chao, Dedrick, Gasser (for Osman), Hanson, Jackson, Kirmani, Safford, Somervill, Walker

Absent: Bankston, Bozylinsky, Hays, Kalkwarf, Raiklin, Smaldino, Thomas

Visitors: Susan Doody (HPELS), newly elected chair of Graduate Faculty

Dedrick moved to approve minutes #873 as published with the following clarifications: The Masters in Social Work program packet was submitted to and approved by the Graduate College Curriculum Committee pending the submission of several changes and the receipt of all relevant curricular forms. These forms will be included when it goes to the Graduate College Curriculum Committee for the next curricular process. In addition, Jackson specified that she suggested Colburn consult with the Office of the Registrar to see what corrections could be made concerning the labeling of prerequisites for G level courses in the catalog for Art courses. The motion was seconded and it passed.

Kirmani reported that two committees have been formed. The committee addressing the formation of the Graduate College Curriculum Committee consists of Hans Isakson, Chair, Philip East, Carolyn Shields, Sherry Gable, and Greg Bruess. They will report on the composition and duties of the Graduate College Curriculum Committee. The second committee will address the subject of variable graduate assistant stipends. Members include Ronnie Bankston, Chair, Curtiss Hanson, Geoffrey Mills, Sharon Smaldino, and Jerry Stockdale. Both committees will report at the Thursday, April 23 meeting of Graduate Council.

Somervill announced that there will be four separate graduations this semester. The Graduate Faculty Chair, Al Hays, and Graduate Council Chair, Syed Kirmani, will be on the platform for the Graduate College commencement this year.

Hanson began discussion on whether the number of hours allowed for XXX:299 should be increased from six to nine. Currently, the Masters of Science programs have the option of taking nine research hours. Hanson suggested that all other departments be given the right to decide, allowing the option to take nine hours. Chao commented that it would be beneficial to have a consistent policy across all masters programs. Doody (HPELS) supported having this option. Hanson moved that the number of hours allowed for XXX:299 should be increased from six to nine permitted on the program of study for all thesis programs. Chao seconded the motion and it passed. Jackson will oversee the change in language in the 1998-2000 catalog.

Discussion on whether students should be allowed to take as many as six hours of

XXX:299/XXX:399 in one semester rather than a limit of three began with a motion by Hanson to take a previous motion off the table. The tabled motion from the February 26 meeting was as follows: if the student is in the last semester of their MA program, they should be allowed to take up to six hours of research. Chao seconded the motion to remove the motion from the table and it passed. Hanson commented that it would be difficult to know when a student's last semester would be and advocated for a flexible policy. He made an amended motion, stating students may be allowed to take a maximum of six hours for XXX:299/XXX:399 in one semester rather than a limit of three. Dedrick seconded the motion and it passed.

Walker reported on the Outstanding Master's Project/Paper Award. The committee suggested having two categories, one for a written paper and one for a creative project. Walker stated there would be a separate committee to judge this award due to the possible number of nominations. Safford suggested that both categories should be offered as it shows that there is interest in these areas and that judges can have the option to not give an award in any particular year if no nominations are of outstanding quality. Somervill commented that the addition of awards for graduate students serve as incentives and as recognition of students excelling in various areas. Somervill will consult with performing arts and music departments to discuss whether they are interested in an award for creative projects, and if they would like to serve as judges for this award. If so, he will suggest they submit a proposal to the Graduate College. Chao moved to have 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards for the master's paper award. Bruess seconded the motion and it passed.

Somervill sent notices to Graduate Coordinators and Heads of Departments concerning the change in tuition scholarship awards. Currently, students who receive an assistantship and/or scholarship are billed for resident tuition. According to University policy, only students who receive a graduate assistant stipend are to be billed for resident tuition. Scholarship awards are for the amount of resident tuition only. Therefore, out-of-state and international students who receive only a tuition scholarship will have to pay the difference between non-resident and resident tuition.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Stejskal
Secretary

Graduate Faculty meeting will be held Thursday, April 9, 1998 at 3:30 in Seerly 212.

Next Graduate Council meeting will be April 23, 1998 at 3:30 p.m. in Seerly 3.