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University of Northern Iowa Graduate Council Minutes, March 9, 1995

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UNI Graduate Council Minutes #840

March 9, 1995

Present: Chao, Crew, Decker, Durham, East, Fahmy, Ishler, V. Jackson, Lew, Rose (for Safford), Somervill, Walker

Absent: Clohesy, Das, Quirk, Yohe

Visitors: Fred Meeker, Dawn Dungan (Graduate Dean's Student Advisory Committee); Mick Jurgensen (Educational Administration and Counseling); Joseph Smaldino (Communicative Disorders); Roger Sell (Center for the Enhancement of Teaching)

Minutes #839 were approved as published.

Somervill distributed an updated list of the Graduate Dean's Student Advisory Committee members and introduced the two representatives to the Graduate Council. Fahmy welcomed them and the Council members introduced themselves.

Joseph Smaldino, Head of the Communicative Disorders Department, gave a presentation concerning their selection as a premier program. He said that the department felt that factors which led to their being selected included: a strong commitment to student involvement, a professionally active faculty, educational standards board accreditation, 5-star rating from external reviewers, high program demand, high admission standards, commitment to diversity, strong academic and clinical preparation, first rate facilities, commitment to faculty development, and history of successful external funding. Benefits which have resulted from being selected include: recruitment of excellent students, recruitment of department head and dean, encouragement of faculty grant writing, encouragement of faculty development, influenced external program review teams, opportunity for further increase in diversity, and recruitment of Hearst Chair participants. Anticipated benefits include: doctoral entry into profession, distance learning and therapy, consortium programming, innovative curriculum changes, expanded externship opportunities, expanded collaborative clinical services, and improved external funding competitiveness. Crew asked how many students are currently in the program. Smaldino said they limited the enrollment to 25 in the speech-language pathology major and 10 audiology majors. Fahmy asked about the ramifications of starting a doctoral program. Smaldino said that they are now one of the larger MA programs, but will still probably have to "hook up" with someplace so the students can obtain many of the 3000 practical hours which will be required. The field is heading toward no longer having the MA but requiring the AuD. Fahmy inquired about the ability of current faculty to shoulder a doctoral program. Smaldino said that additional resources would be required to have a strong program. The department will have to do things differently and utilize distance learning and course work from other institutions.

Crew moved to accept the Graduate Faculty Status Committee report. Motion was seconded. Fahmy read a letter from Mike Waggoner representing the Educational Administration and Counseling Intensive Study Areas reacting negatively to the proposed two-tier Graduate Faculty status. Ishler made a friendly amendment to change "department" to "program" since the EdD is not a departmental degree. She also suggested adding the following: "4. Deans and departments associated with doctoral programs should develop policies for encouraging faculty to maintain Category B Dissertation Director status, including providing time necessary for faculty to direct doctoral dissertations." This would address concerns regarding providing support for doctoral programs. East questioned whether giving released time to dissertation chairs but not to masters chairs would increase the difficulty of getting the proposal approved by the Graduate Faculty. Ishler said that "and masters theses" could be added. Somervill reminded everyone that it is the department head who makes the decisions on released time. The Council can only encourage them to consider the idea. Fahmy suggested adding a requirement to provide evidence of teaching excellence at the undergraduate as well as the graduate level according to departmental faculty guidelines. He also suggested reducing the teaching load if a faculty member is on more than three committees. Somervill said that sometimes students are not actively working on their paper, and that the Council would have to leave the load determination to each department. Ishler reported that the Curriculum and Instruction faculty are opposed to the proposal, feeling that it is elitist. Crew said that the proposal is simply taking a summary of what is currently being done and making it into a University-wide policy for all current and future doctoral programs. Decker made a friendly amendment to replace "as demonstrated by" with "Examples may include:" in 2.3.c. Crew made a friendly amendment to add "Recommendation to Category B membership can be made by the faculty and head of any graduate program." as the last sentence in the last paragraph of 2.3. Motion as amended was passed. Somervill suggested having Council members visit with the faculty of the two doctoral programs to explain the proposal and respond to questions. Crew, Ishler and East will do this. A copy of the report is attached.

Crew moved acceptance of the report from the ICN Subcommittee. Motion was seconded. Ishler commended the committee members on the thoroughness of their report. Decker said that the committee feels that the programs should collect data on quality. Jackson questioned not having a set residency requirement. Decker said that it was difficult to come up with a firm residency requirement. The committee felt it should be based on each program and its needs. However, the requirements should be clearly stated up front and approved by the Graduate College. Programs need to justify what they are going to do. Somervill said that proposals for programs should be approved by the Graduate College before being advertised and offered. After discussion, Crew amended the motion to include a request that the committee develop procedural guidelines before the end of the semester for submission and approval for offering graduate programs on the ICN. Motion was passed as amended. A copy of the ten executive summary recommendations is attached. A copy of the report is available in the Graduate College Office.

Discussion of the report on potential enrollment growth was postponed to the next meeting due to the time. Council members are reminded to bring their copy of the report to the meeting.

Fahmy said that he and Durham had met with Grace Ann Hovet. She said that it had been an inadvertent oversight that they had not been consulted for input for the Presidential Search Committee and that every effort will be made to have a time available to meet with the candidates. Walker said that the graduate program was mentioned in the position advertisement in the Chronicle.

Fahmy reported that the officers of the Graduate Council will be meeting with Paul Butler-Nalin to discuss the Graduate College Strategic Plan.

East reported that there had been a student research conference where graduate and undergraduate research was presented.

Durham announced that the Graduate Faculty meeting would be April 27, 1995 at 3:30 p.m.

Identification of items to publicize include student representation at the Graduate Council meetings and the acceptance of the Graduate Faculty Status report.

Durham moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Hesse
Secretary

Next meeting will be April 13, 1995 at 3:30 p.m. in Seerley 3