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# University of Northern Iowa Graduate Council Minutes, November 11, 1993

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# UNI Graduate Council Minutes #823

November 11, 1993

Present: Chao, Crew, Decker, Durham, East (for Kirmani), Huddleston, Lew, R. Martin, Safford, Simet, Somervill, Walker, Yohe

Absent: Gaies, V. Jackson, MacArthur

Visitors: Nancy Marlin (Vice President and Provost); Susann Doody (College of Education); John Fecik, Abolghassem Tolu Honary (Industrial Technology); Sharon Smaldino (Curriculum and Instruction); Fred Rees (Music)

Minutes #822 were approved after noting that the Faculty Secretary attended the meeting at Iowa State and not the Graduate Council Vice Chair.

Simet announced that enhancement materials had been received for 25 programs. The committee is in the process of finalizing the criteria and will be looking at the submitted materials.

Somervill distributed a sheet with fall graduate enrollment data since 1983. He noted that we have a record graduate enrollment this year and also a record enrollment for full-time students. Somervill said that the recruitment trip to New Orleans was very successful and that he anticipates a fairly high number of minorities being accepted by departments. Somervill distributed summary information on Graduate Faculty status requirements at UNI's benchmark institutions.

Walker said that there were 48 theses received for the MAGS competition this year, which is a record number. He expressed his appreciation for the cooperation he has received from the faculty asked to review a thesis. Walker reported that there were 82 Summer Fellowship applications received--a record number. There are funds for 25 8-week Fellowships. Walker said that he has been working with the Faculty Senate committee which is reviewing the grant process on campus.

Fred Rees showed a short segment from a video made during his interactive video class to give an idea of how the system operates. The class is offered at four sites and originates from Schindler Education Center. Smaldino said that the system is easy to operate since a touch monitor is used. Almost anything that can be done in a classroom can be done on the system. The origination site initiates the scheduling, generally one to three hours at a time. Walker asked who was responsible for the technology at the sites. Smaldino said that each region has a coordinator and a technician responsible for hardware to the classroom. Each site is responsible for the technology within the classroom. Chao commented that there would be a complication with students being able to work together outside of class. Smaldino replied that generally things can be worked out. Decker said that the main problems seem to be the limited number of sites

and the amount of programs people want to put on the system. UNI has only one classroom and only one channel. Smaldino said that currently there are 127 sites. She also said that the usage rate is \$5.00 per link per hour, which is fairly cheap, but which is used to pay for maintenance. Safford asked how it was decided what courses and programs are offered. Doody said those decisions were made in conjunction with Continuing Education. She said that a need has been identified and that we are trying to supply that need. Simet asked if residency requirements had been considered. East said if residency meant that the course was delivered by UNI faculty, then these courses would qualify. Smaldino said that there will be a telephone available at each site so the teacher can speak directly with a student without their conversation being broadcast over the system. Chao said that he could see where this could lead to a drop in on-campus enrollment and an increase in remote site students. Smaldino said that it could be a possibility but that it has not happened at Kirkwood. Tolu Honary asked about use of the system by private businesses. Smaldino said that currently it has been legislated for educational use only, but that it could possibly be a future area of development. Rees said that his class has gone from an historic enrollment of 2-3 to an enrollment of 13 this semester and that the department has received several requests for information on their graduate degree program as a result of his class. Simet said that there could be a liability problem with lab classes. Yohe said that all students have access to telnet over the fiber optics so they can look at the library catalog, etc. Chao questioned whether a program offered over the network would be eligible for accreditation. Smaldino and Rees invited faculty to visit a class to get a feel for how the system works. Smaldino said that Bob Hardman will be offering training seminars in November and early December. Call him if you are interested. Yohe announced that there is now a live data connection to Schindler.

Discussion on multiple levels of Graduate Faculty was postponed until the next meeting due to time limitations.

Decker moved to go to executive session. Motion was seconded and passed. Huddleston moved to rise from executive session. Motion was seconded and passed. Crew moved to accept the committee recommendation that Barbara Lounsberry receive the 1994-1995 Distinguished Scholar Award. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Huddleston moved to empower Walker to write letters as discussed. Motion was seconded and passed. Simet thanked the members of the committee-- Steve Gaies, Norris Durham, Allen Jedlicka, Robert Martin, and Al Orr.

Simet announced that this is Somervill's fifth year as Graduate Dean and so there will be an evaluation. He has talked with Marlin and will appoint a committee to generate the instrument used to get feedback from the Graduate Faculty. The instrument will be distributed early next semester as a summary needs to be provided to Marlin before spring break.

Items to publicize include the Distinguished Scholar Award.

Durham moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at

4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Hesse  
Secretary

Next meeting will be December 9 at 3:30 p.m. in 3 Seerley