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University of Northern Iowa Graduate Council Minutes, March 11, 1993

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UNI Graduate Council Minutes #817

March 11, 1993

Present: Durham, Fahmy, Gaies, Huddleston, V. Jackson, Jakubowski, Klassen (for Chao), Maier, K. Martin (for Safford), Simet, S. Smaldino, Somervill, Walker, Yohe

Absent: Lew, R. Martin

Visitors: Nancy Marlin (Vice President and Provost); Robert Leestamper, Kevin Curry (International Programs); John Fecik (Industrial Technology); Martha Reineke (Philosophy and Religion); Victoria DeFrancisco (Communication Studies)

Minutes #816 were approved after noting that Kevin Curry should have been listed under the International Programs office and "a student is" in the third paragraph should have been "students are."

Somervill said that in past years not all graduate assistant positions have been awarded in the meeting with each Dean, but since the Master Agreement has already been signed this year and he was told that there would be the same number of assistantships as last year, he made more awards. In fact, we are now over committed by two assistantships, with five students on an alternate list. So seven offers must be declined before more assistantship funds will be available for reallocation. Somervill reported that he has met with a couple of deans regarding low enrollment programs. He should have a report available to bring to the Council after spring break.

Walker asked about the Outstanding Dissertation Award and Fahmy said that the committee will be meeting after break.

Jackson distributed copies of possible exemptions from the 1992-93 TOEFL manual. She said that this was the result of surveying 655 institutions as to what categories of students were exempted from taking the TOEFL. UNI's current policy is that a minimum score of 500 is required, however, departments can require a higher score. Smaldino asked why we would need to have exemptions. Somervill said that they would provide flexibility if a student would have good English skills. After some discussion, Huddleston moved that exemptions may be made for students with a degree or diploma from an institution in an English speaking country where English was the language of instruction. Motion was seconded. Gaies made a friendly amendment to add accredited in front of institution. He also said that this motion would not address the issue of foreign countries where the test fee is very large. After discussion, the friendly amendment was withdrawn and it was decided to add international before students. Motion was passed.

Simet said that the Graduate College Curriculum Committee unanimously recommended approval of the Master of Arts in Women's Studies. He said its biggest selling point was that it was an interdisciplinary degree. He moved to accept the

recommendation of the Committee to approve the proposal and send it to the Senate for consideration. Motion was seconded and passed. Fahmy and Simet commended the Committee for their work.

Simet reminded the colleges whose representative's term on the Graduate College Curriculum Committee expires this year that they should select their representative this spring so the Committee can be ready to start work in the fall. The two colleges affected are Humanities and Fine Arts and Natural Sciences.

Maier reminded everyone of the Graduate Faculty meeting on Thursday, March 25 at 3:30 p.m. in Business 109. She urged Council members to attend and bring a colleague. A reminder notice will be distributed to all Graduate Faculty after break.

Items to publicize include the Graduate Faculty meeting and the TOEFL exemption decision.

Smaldino moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Hesse
Secretary

Next meeting will be April 8 at 3:30 p.m. in Gilchrist Board Room