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University of Northern Iowa Graduate Council Minutes, March 12, 1992

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UNI Graduate Council Minutes #805

March 12, 1992

Present: Berg, Durham, Fahmy, Gaies (for Swensen), Lew, Maier, R. Martin, Rose (for Safford), S. Smaldino, Somervill, Walker

Absent: Clayson, V. Jackson, Jones, Mills, Yohe

Visitors: Nancy Marlin (Vice President and Provost); Carolyn Shields, Tom Remington (English Language and Literature); Judith Harrington (Communicative Disorders); William Ferrara, Rebecca Burkhardt (Music); Carol Morgan (History); Phil Patton (Registrar); Drake Martin (Residence); Brad Masters, Paige Bauer (Communication and Theatre Arts students); Shawn Slobe (Marketing Management student)

Minutes #804 were approved as published.

Remington summarized his objections to the policy on "I" grades. He said he was surprised at a policy which requires faculty to have an administrator counter-sign for a grade. He felt that if the department head is a party to the contract, there is a conflict of interest if the student later files a grievance concerning the Incomplete. Shields said that the policy is more restrictive than that for undergraduate students and that the student may not be able to finish the work in the six week time period. Harrington pointed out that the "I" is to be used when the student was doing satisfactory work and something occurred in the last one-sixth of the semester to prevent completion of the course and that "RC" can be used for courses as well as research. She said that the policy was adopted as support for the student so that it can be clearly specified what needs to be done to complete the course. Sometimes when time has passed the student can't locate the professor or the student and the professor can't agree on what was needed to complete the course. Patton said that the "I" should be used when something occurs in the last six weeks of the semester to prevent completion of the course and that "RC" should be used when the course is going to continue beyond the end of the semester. Berg moved that the requirement of the department head/graduate coordinator signature on the "I" form be removed, to be instituted immediately. Motion was seconded and passed. Remington and Shields suggested that use of the form be discontinued. Somervill said that the Council discussed this issue at the time of adoption and that the policy really hasn't had a trial period since it only went into effect Fall 1992. Maier said that she thought the policy was good and that it should be used. Sometimes students pressure faculty for an "I". It was decided to continue the policy using the revised form.

Burkhardt read a human rights policy proposed by the Women's Studies Advisory Board and said that it had been endorsed by the Academic Affairs Council, the Faculty Senate, the UNI Student Government, and the Professional and Scientific Council. She asked that the Graduate Council also endorse it. The endorsements will be presented to

President Curris with a request to change the current policy. Durham moved to approve the policy statement. Motion was seconded. There was a friendly amendment to change approve to endorse. Motion was passed. Somervill said that a similar policy had been adopted at Iowa City and Ames.

Items to be publicized include the change in the co-signing requirement on the "I" form.

Maier requested that business matters for the Graduate Faculty meeting be sent to her.

Durham moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Hesse
Secretary

Next meeting will be Thursday, March 26, 1992 at 3:30 p.m. in Gilchrist Board Room