

MINUTES
The Graduate Council
October 17, 2007
Johnson Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Christian Cherry, Li-Shan Chou, Marian Friestad (ex officio), Mark Johnson, Richard Linton (ex officio), Ben McWhirter, Wayne Mikkelson, Ron Mitchell, Brook Muller, Harry Price, John Russial, Corbett Upton, Yuan Xu

Members Absent: Michael Hames-Garcia, Mark Watson (ex officio)

Graduate School Staff in Attendance: Kassy Fisher, Debra Otley

Dean Friestad called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. The minutes from May 16, 2007, were approved as distributed. The slate of new officers were then unanimously approved: Ron Mitchell, Chair; Harry Price, Vice Chair; and Li-Shan Chou, Secretary. Professor Mitchell took over chairing the meeting.

Announcements

- Dean Friestad gave notice that the College of Education has requested to change the name of their program in Marriage and Family Therapy to Couples and Family Therapy.
- Chair Ron Mitchell led the group in introductions and noted that the November meeting's date is the day before Thanksgiving. Dean Friestad offered to facilitate the Council's exploration of alternate meeting dates in November.

Old Business

Proposal for New Instructional Programs Leading to

- *Master's in Curriculum and Teaching and Master's in Curriculum and Teacher Education*

Dean Friestad noted that the two master's programs were a significant redesign of an already existing degree program. Guest Jill Baxter, Associate Professor in Educational Studies, described one master's program as being linked to certification/licensure and the other as a program geared toward already working teachers. Before leaving, Dr. Baxter offered to answer individual questions via e-mail.

Dean Friestad invited questions about this part of the proposal. Yuan Xu had several comments and questions, based on feedback he received from colleagues in the Math Department. These surrounded the content and instructors for the math education methods courses, and the notion that acceptable substitutions for math content courses be decided by math faculty rather than by faculty in the education program. Harry Price cautioned members to bear in mind the differences between content knowledge and pedagogy. Other members had questions about the changes made to the math course requirements for the secondary education track, the high number of hours required by these degrees compared to other master's programs, and the budgetary impact information provided in the proposal.

- *Revised Proposal of Ph.D. in Critical and Socio-Cultural Studies in Education*

Dean Friestad encouraged members to look at this proposal carefully as it is a completely new program, and that this is a Ph.D (not D.Ed.) program. She added that a replacement for the name "teacher education" is also being proposed. The new name is "educational studies."

Dr. Mitchell invited comment from the Council. Dean Friestad noted that the proposal states that there will be some budgetary impact, but that it does not address the issue of graduate student support. Dr. Mitchell would like to learn more about the benefits of this kind of program, how it plays out in other universities, its competitiveness and demand. Val Burris asked how this particular degree is different or similar to other education Ph.D. degrees at other institutions, noting also that he'd like documentation of PSU and OSU's view of this program. Dean Friestad suggested that letters of support from those universities could be requested.

Dean Friestad reminded the Council that the process for reviewing proposals includes a review by the Provost, the Provosts' Council (OUS), and an external review site visit.

Dr. Mitchell noted that other questions would be gathered over the next few days or weeks and circulated before sharing with the College of Education for response. Dean Friestad urged members to review the list of courses in the proposal.

New Business

- *Proposal for the Initiation of a New Instructional Program Leading to the Ecological Design Certificate in Architecture and Allied Arts*

Brook Muller described the program as one designed to meet the need/demands of prospective students and the field. He noted that similar programs exist at the University of Texas and the University of Minnesota. He said the certificate would formalize already existing courses and efforts. He added that the certificate is for graduate students only. He gave a brief description of the course requirements and time commitment.

Council members had questions about the non-major course requirements of the certificate, recognition beyond UO (such as accreditation through AIA or ASLA), how this program compares to LEED certification, and how this program compares to those at other universities. Dr. Mitchell suggested these questions, particularly the LEED issue, be addressed in the revised proposal.

- *Proposal for the Educational Leadership Metro Doctoral (D.Ed.) Program*

Dean Friestad informed the Council that the program content is not at-issue in this proposal. However, the program would require a waiver of the University's year of residence requirement for graduate students (one, full-time year in-residence on the Eugene campus).

Dr. Xu commented that being on-campus is an essential component of a graduate program. Dr. Burris asked if a waiver would be a step toward reevaluating the policy on a larger scale. Ben McWhirter said that school districts are pushing professionals (principals and other administrators) to get this degree and that students in this program are usually full-time practitioners while pursuing their degree. Dr. Price added that distance education, when done correctly, is just effective as traditional education. Dean Linton pointed out that innovative approaches are to be commended. The discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

- *Committee Assignments*

Dean Friestad will email members with the list of committees and descriptions. Members are to send Dr. Mitchell their first and second preferences. Dean Linton described the GTFF Bargaining Team committee assignment and encouraged those interested to step forward.

- *Graduate Council Agenda for the Year*

Dr. Mitchell and Dean Friestad shared other topics for this year's Graduate Council. These included the tracking of student accomplishments post-graduation, the Bologna Process and the accepting of three-year degrees, diversity, grant-writing and outside funding for graduate students, course evaluation changes, and assessment of our programs.

Announcements

Dr. Mitchell shared that he attended a meeting about the honorary degrees that will be awarded to several members of the Japanese-American community whose education was interrupted by their internment during WWII.

Dean Friestad invited members to the Graduate School Fall Awards Reception on Monday, October 22, 2007.

Deans' Updates

- Dean Linton reminded the Council about the upcoming release of the NRC study (February) and said that he'd like to educate Council members on interpreting the rankings. He also discussed the recent gift from Lorry Lokey, which includes \$10 million to graduate education. He said this is the first of several graduate student-centered initiatives. Last, he thanked the members for their commitment to the Graduate Council.

The Council adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Li-Shan Chou, Secretary