

MINUTES
The Graduate Council
October 18, 2006
Rowe Conference Room, Knight Library

Members Present: David Chard, Li-Shan Chou, Marian Friestad (ex officio), Michael Hames-Garcia, Mark Johnson, Huaxin Lin, Richard W. Linton (ex officio), Wayne Mikkelson, Ron Mitchell Brook Muller, Harry Price, John Russial, Mark Watson, Corbett Upton

Members Absent: Lori Kruckenberg

Graduate School Staff in Attendance: Debra Otley, Kassy Fisher

Dean Friestad called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m., noting that officer elections would occur during the meeting. The minutes of the May 17, 2006 were approved as amended: David Chard changed from absent to present.

Announcements

- Dean Friestad announced the recipients of the Dan Kimble Award— Elizabeth Caldwell (Philosophy) and Kathleen Ryan (Journalism and Communications). She also shared a description of the award's purpose and history, and mentioned that both recipients participated in the GTF orientation training in September.

Old Business

- Election of Officers

David Chard (Chair), Ron Mitchell (Vice-Chair), and Harry Price (Secretary), were nominated as a slate of candidates. The candidates were elected with all present members in favor.

New Business

- Proposal for a new Certificate: Suzuki Method String Pedagogy in Music

Dean Friestad gave an overview of the requirements of new Certificate programs, the state of Certificate programs on the UO campus, and the proposal review process for Certificates.

Several questions were raised by members: Will the program attract non-degree-seeking students? Is there a cost associated with the program for those who are already enrolled at UO? Is there a minimum credit requirement for those not already enrolled? As this area is so specialized, how will the faculty member equipped to run the program be replaced in the event that he/she is no longer able to continue? In that case, would the program be suspended? How would that affect students who are in the middle of the program?

Dean Linton also pointed out that a review of the admissions process was needed as it is not well-defined in the proposal.

It was decided that members would review the entire document more thoroughly by the next meeting.

Dean Friestad summarized two items that could be taken back to the music department: the need for a contingency plan should the instructor become unavailable mid-program and an outline of the admissions process and requirements.

- Dean Friestad gave an overview of the 3 Graduate Council committees (below) and asked members to contact David Chard with their preferences.
 - Grievance Committee

- Meets only if/when academic grievances are filed; 2 faculty, 1 student needed.*
- Scholarships & Awards: UO Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship
Meets in February & March; 3 faculty members needed.
- Scholarships & Awards: Smith Summer Grant and Stein Graduate Teaching Award
Meets in March & April; 3 faculty members needed.
- Program Review
Meets during the spring term; 1 faculty per program: Geography, History, International Studies, Journalism & Communication.

Dean's Updates

- UO Reaccreditation

Dean Linton shared that UO has been in the reaccreditation process for over a year. The steering committee is chaired by JoAnna Gray and David Hubin. Deans Friestad and Linton lead the graduate studies and research review. Dean Friestad shared that a draft of the areas pertaining to the graduate students and graduate programs will be brought before the Graduate Council for review and feedback. This is expected to be circulated during or before the November meeting.

Dean Linton shared an introduction and self-study timeline from the UO accreditation website.

- National Research Council (NRC)

Dean Friestad briefly noted that a review of doctoral education is being done across the US.

Other

- Linda Brady, Senior Vice President and Provost – Guest

Provost Brady came to the meeting to discuss graduate education at the UO. She talked about the UO's membership in AAU as a measure of quality, and she wants to explore increasing the UO's graduate enrollment to 25% of the total enrollment in an effort to be more in line with our AAU peers.

Council members had questions about factors that affected the UO's position within the AAU (e.g., the number of doctoral degrees awarded, sponsored research dollars, absence of medical, agriculture, and engineering programs); the fact that some professional schools are not included (e.g., College of Education); and which schools constituted our peer AAU institutions. There was additional discussion of how other factors such as demographic changes and OUS policies might affect the goal of growing graduate enrollments. Dr. Brady was then asked about why it was important to try and improve the UO's standing in the AAU (i.e., Why does AAU membership matter to the UO?).

Finally, Dr. Brady briefly described a new leadership structure, which contains three councils: the Leadership Council, made up of deans, vice presidents, & vice provosts; the Deans' Working Group (Dean's only), and the Vice Provosts' Council, in which there is now a Vice Provost for Graduate Studies (Marian Friestad).

David Chard thanked Dr. Brady, moved to table the NRC discussion, and invited members to send additional agenda items to Dean Friestad or him. The Council adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Price, Secretary

