

Minutes
Graduate Council
January 24, 2008

Members Present: Neslihan Alp, Boris Belinskiy, Hinsdale Bernard, Nicholas Boer, Tom Buggey, Joe Dumas, David Edwards, Almed Elton John Freeman, Kristy Gibbs, Gale Iles, Jonathan McNair, Brian O’Leary, Vicki Petzko, Mark Schorr, Cathie Smith, Chris Smith, Joyce Smith, Kim Turner

Members Absent: Roger Briley, Linda Fletcher, Pamela Guess, Michael Long

Ex-officio Members Present: Deborah Arfken, Stephanie Bellar, Yvonne Kilpatrick, Craig Reddock

Guests Present: Linda Orth

Summary of Actions

Passed the following proposals:

08-0023G Psychology: Addition of Core Skills for I/O Psychologist: “Understanding Business” passed by a hand count of 19-0-0.

08-0024G Psychology: Addition of “Compensation and Benefits” passed by a hand count of 19-0-0.

08-0039G Post-Baccalaureate Education Certificate in ESL Instruction passed by a hand count of 19-0-0.

08-0040G Changes in the MS Engineering Management Program passed by a hand count of 18-0-1.

08-0041G Add Math 515 and 516 amending pages 4, 6, 8, 14, and 16 passed by a hand count+++++++ of 19-0-0.

Changes in the MS Engineering Program passed by a hand count of 19-0-0.

Opening of the Meeting and Minutes:

Vicki Petzko called the meeting to order at 3:28 p.m. The minutes of the November 29, 2007 meeting were approved as submitted.

Report of the Curriculum Committee :

Jonathan McNair, committee chair, asked Brian O’Leary, Psychology, to discuss proposals 08-0023G and 08-0024, which creates the courses “Understanding Business”. Both passed by a hand count of 19-0-0.

Stephanie Bellar discussed proposal 08-0039G that creates a Post-Baccalaureate Education Certificate in ESL Instruction. The program is currently being offered at the under graduate level and the enhancements requested will build on that program to bring it to the graduate level She explained that this is in response to the new state regulations and that there is only one other school, MTSU, that is offering this certificate at this time. After a discussion regarding whether an examination was needed for licensure it was recommended that the catalog language state explicitly that licensure was not automatic upon completion of the certificate. A motion was made to accept and the proposal passed by a hand count of 19-0-0.

Jonathan McNair then asked that Nesli Alp discuss proposal 08-0040G: Changes in the MS Engineering program. She stated the proposal did not make any major changes; its primary goal is to bring the catalog listing more in line with the program, to help the student see the right program. A discussion of how the student would get to the minimum of 33 over all hours. During the conversation, it was noted that on page 4, course 596 should be shown as an “R”. The proposal passed with a hand count of 18-0-1.

Jonathan McNair asked to hold the presentation of proposal 08-0041G until after 08-0042G was presented. He then asked Nesli Alp to discuss proposal 08-0042G that adds two new certificate programs, *Leadership and Ethics* and *Power Systems Management* and changes the title of the current *Certificate in Project Management* to *Certificate in Project and Value Management*. The proposal also made minor changes in the certificate programs giving more flexibility to the students. Overall, Nesli Alp stated, the department believes the changes will attract more students to the certificate programs. The proposal passed by a hand count of 19-0-0.

Jonathan McNair stated the Curriculum Committee had a lot of discussion within a very limited timeframe on a complicated proposal 08-0041G. He then asked Nesli Alp to present it. She stated the main purpose is to lower the requirements from 33 to 30 hours which will bring the programs more in line with other schools. She stated that Math courses 515 and 516 are not offered on a regular basis and that they are used as only examples, that students work with their advisors to determine their courses. The proposal does not remove Math 555 and 556 it allows students to take Math 515, 516, 555, or 556 making it more flexible. A motion was made to add Math 515 and 516 amending pages 4, 6, 8, 14, and 16 which passed by a vote of 19-0-0.

A motion was then made to approve the proposal 08-0041G on the second reading and Vicki Petzko asked if there were any questions. A discussion followed and it was determined that a project would be an option for all Engineering programs with the exception of Electrical Engineering which was not part of the proposal. The proposal passed by a hand count of 18-0-1.

Vickie Petzko thanked Johnathan McNair and all of the committee members for their work in getting the proposals ready for the Council. She also asked him to write his thoughts on improvements in the proposal process submission. She urged all of the programs to work on proposals and submit them as soon as possible to avoid the rush at the end of the Fall 08 semester.

Beginning discussion of graduate school GPA for graduate school admission:

Deborah Arfken distributed a compilation of GPA's in both public and private universities in Tennessee and said the Council would need to decide if the GPA requirement should move from a 2.5 to something higher. She asked the members to discuss this issue with their colleges stating that while it does need to be considered by the Council, she asked that it to be removed from this agenda.

Credit by Special Examination

Deborah Arfken stated that the Council needed to discuss “Credit by Special Examination.” She continued that there were two electives in the TDPT program that the grading scale needed to be resolved. When reviewing a transcript there was not a way to differentiate if the grade was received by Credit by Examination or a regular grade of “B”. A discussion followed as to when credit is awarded to students by licensure. Deborah Arfken took “Credit by Special Examination” off of the table stating that it needed further discuss and would be added as the first agenda item for the next meeting.

Other Matters; Adjournment:

Nesli Alp stated that Ahmed Eltom would replace Ed Foster who would no longer be able to serve on the Council.

Kim Turner stated that due to his teaching schedule, Mike Long would not be able to serve on the Council and that she would forward his replacement's name to the Graduate School.

Deborah Arfken asked for a volunteer to represent the Graduate Council to serve on the UPRAC Committee. Joe Dumas said he would be willing if he could resolve a conflict with the meeting time.

Vicki Petzko asked that Deborah Arfken discuss the new direction she will be taking at the end of June. Deborah Arfken said that she would be returning to faculty to teach an on-line course, heading up the responsibilities of coordinating the University's Strategic Plan and serving as President of the Partnership for Families, Children and Adults.

Other announcements included: Congratulations given to Kristy Gibbs on her marriage over the holidays, and to Hinsdale Bernard and Mark Schorr who welcomed new grandsons into their families, and Deborah Arfken on the birth of her new granddaughter.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at 4:6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Uhles
Administrative Assistant
The Graduate School