

The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
Graduate Council Minutes
January 31, 2002

Members Present: G. Bartoo, M. Biderman, D. Cundiff, D. Edwards, E. Foster, K. Gee, J. Henley, T. Lease, E. McMahon, E. Meagher, J. Mies, L. Tillman, J. Tucker, J. Wakim

Members Absent: P. Berry, P. Guess, B. Lee, G. Thibadoux

Ex-Officio Members Present: D. Arfken

Ex-Officio Members Absent: S. Delacroix

Guests Present: D. Gruetzemacher, L. Orth, M. Miller, V. Petzko, G. Sullivan, G. Wilkerson

Actions Taken

- Seco Reading: New course in the MSN Program: Nursing 515 Financial Administration for Nurse Executives approved, 13-0-0.
- Second Reading: New course in the MSN Program: Nursing 533 Health Care Information Systems approved, 13-0-0.

I. Call to Order and Approval of the Minutes

Dr. Meagher called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. She announced that Dr. John Tucker is replacing Dr. Gary Litchford as a representative of the Department of Environmental Science on the Graduate Council. The minutes were unanimously approved.

II. Graduate Student Evaluations of Instruction

Recommendation 19 of the SACS' Visiting Committee's Report reads as follows: The Committee recommends that the institution present evidence of a systematic evaluation of graduate instruction, and where appropriate, document revisions of the institutional processes based on results of these evaluations. As the beginning of a response to Recommendation 19, Dr. Gruetzemacher conducted a "trial run" survey of graduate students' estimation of instruction. He distributed handouts of the results of that survey together with a list of the survey questions. Dr. Bartoo pointed out that there appeared to be several inconsistencies in the report. Dr. Gruetzemacher emphasized the "trial run" nature of the survey and asked for any guidance on questions that should be included. He said that OPEIR planned to conduct a survey of graduate students with input from all deans, the provost, and additional faculty members. Graduate Council will continue to work with Dr. Gruetzemacher on this matter.

III. Explanation of Computer Program Used for Information on Admission/Retention of Graduate Students in Accounting, Business Administration, Elementary Education, and English

Dr. Meagher recalled the Council's recent discussion of the procedure used to count graduate students (first time students and readmits). Ms. Glenda Sullivan explained that the computer program counts the number of graduate students enrolled on the 14th day of the semester; it also reports the term of entry of each student and whether or not the student has graduated. Dr. Meagher asked if it was possible to do a separate count for each graduate program. The answer was no. Linda Orth explained that the program does not take into account that, for example, in the 1995 Fall term there were 150 students admitted into the English program and in 2001 term 140 of those students had been readmitted.

Graduate Council and Dr. Gruetzemacher discussed potential steps that could be taken to improve information gathering. Ms. Glenda Sullivan explained that in the very near future Computing Services, along with the University, will be implementing a new program to replace the existing program. Therefore, rewriting the current program for admission/retention of graduate students would not be a top priority. However, after the new system is in place her department would try to have a more specific report. The Council decided to revisit this topic at a future meeting.

IV. Nursing Program: Second Readings

A. New Course in the MSN Program: Nursing 515 Administration for Nurse Executives

Dr. Bartoo moved and Dr. Tillman seconded the motion to approve the proposal on the second reading. Dr. Wakim announced that the requested change in the wording of the course objective had been made. The proposal was approved on the second reading, 11-0-0.

B. New course in the MSN Program: Nursing 533 Introduction to Health Care Information Systems (This course is a combination of the former NURS 535 & 536 with additional content.)

Dr. Biderman moved and Dr. Bartoo seconded a motion to approve on the second reading.

For clarification purposes, Professor Gee said the College of Business Administration (COBA) does not oppose, as it has in the past, the Nursing Administration proposal which includes courses that are similar to COBA. The accreditation body for COBA (AACSB) lists nursing (health care administration) as a "specific" industry and, therefore, courses offered within that industry are not subject to AACSB review. There was no further discussion. The proposal was approved on the second reading, 11-0-0.

V. Athletic Training: First Reading: Non-Thesis Option in M. S. Athletic Training: Advanced Concentration

Dr. Miller presented to Graduate Council a proposal to add a non-thesis track in Athletic Training. Dr. Bartoo moved and Dr. Tillman seconded a motion to approve the proposal. Dr. Tillman asked if a student could move from the non-thesis track to the thesis track. Dr. Miller said yes, that there would be a mechanism in place to allow the student to switch from one option to the other. The proposal was approved on the first reading, 11-0-0.

VI. Information Items

Dr. Petzko announced that EDAS 551 Foundations of Leadership would no longer be a pre-requisite for EDAS 563 School Law. She explained this course can stand-alone and students can take the course without going through additional steps.

College of Business: Reactivation of BACC 532 Income Taxation & Business Decisions

Prof. Gee announced that the faculty of the College of Business Administration voted unanimously to reinstate BACC 532. The course was deleted in the fall 2001 because the required faculty position had been vacant since 1999. Because a new tax professor has been hired, the course can now be offered.

VII. Other Business/Adjournment

Dr. Arfken announced that the proposal to the Lupton Renaissance Fund was not approved. However, the Graduate School was given sufficient funds to give every graduate program \$500 to recruit new graduate students. The Chancellor has said that he wants two hundred more students enrolled. Dr. Arfken said the Graduate School brought in approximately one-third of all headcount growth last fall and that that was a 4% growth for the Graduate School.

In addition, Dr. Arfken informed Graduate Council that presently the Graduate School was working on having postcards designed for prospective new students.

Dr. Arfken announced that Dr. Stacy has officially approved the current plan for starting two new doctoral programs. The College of Education and Professional Studies and the Department of Physical Therapy are currently planning to submit proposals.

Dr. Arfken reminded members of the nominations that were sent out recently for *Who's Who Among Students*. She encouraged members to return the names to the Graduate School by the appropriate deadline.

Dr. Meagher adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Walters
Administrative Assistant
The Graduate School