

University of Rhode Island
The Graduate School
Graduate Council Meeting No. 409, March 3, 2006
MINUTES

Council Members Present: *Cristin Ashmankas, Kathryn Branch, Josie Campbell, Aine Cunningham, David Heskett, Julia Johnson, Brett Lucht, Martin Sadd, Daniel Sheinin, David Smith, Sarina Wyant, Evelyn Yeaw*

Others Present: *Associate Dean Judy Beckman, Associate Dean Harold Bibb, Ms. Ruth Gormly, Dania Brandford-Calvo, John Stevenson*

- I. *The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m.* by Associate Dean Judy Beckman.
- II. *The Minutes of Meeting No. 408* were approved.
- III. *Vice Provost Discussion Items*
 - A. Associate Dean Beckman reported that the recent Graduate Faculty Orientation held on February 10 with 41 participants was a success. John Stevenson, John Boulmetis, and Lynn Pasquerella led a panel session on student mentoring issues, and Donna Gray reviewed Graduate School processes with the participants.
 - B. Associate Dean Beckman reported that she has discussed the issue of Graduate Student Tuition Waivers with Cliff Katz and others. She will also review this issue with the Council for Research and will then bring it to the Graduate Council for discussion.
 - C. Associate Dean Bibb discussed recent meetings in Puerto Rico with the Northeast Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (NEAGEP). One important part of the program concerned how to increase the number of students from underrepresented groups in STEM disciplines. Associate Deans Bibb and Beckman attended the first meeting in January, and Vice Provost Pasquerella attended the second meeting in February along with some students. There is some grant funding available to encourage recruitment and retention of students from underrepresented groups.
 - D. Vice Provost Pasquerella reviewed the latest data on Graduate student enrollment and noted that the numbers are down. The Masters numbers are flat, while the Ph.D.'s are down by 100. She will be working with Administration and the Graduate Council to reverse the trend and requested input from members of the Graduate Council. Areas of concern regarding Graduate student enrollment included: problems with financial support, after-effects from 9/11, and tuition increases. Dr. Padma Venkatraman, the new Coordinator for Graduate Diversity Affairs at the Graduate School, will be visiting several members of the University faculty and administration to review recruitment strategies.
 - E. Dr. Dania Brandford-Calvo, Director of International Education and National Student Exchange, discussed current visa regulations affecting international graduate students. She stated that departments need to be aware of the dates for Graduate School

admissions for Fall and Spring. It currently takes 60-90 days to get a visa processed. All deadlines must be strictly adhered to because of Homeland Security and Federal government regulations. Dania will try to work with departments on exceptions. Associate Dean Harold Bibb requested that members of the Graduate Council bring this important matter back to their departments for discussion.

- G. Regarding the issue of requests for Graduate course deletions, Associate Dean Judy Beckman proposed that information on the number of years a course has not been offered and the impact on current students taking the course be included on the course request form. This issue will be addressed at a future Graduate Council meeting.

IV. Announcements

- A. Associate Dean Judy Beckman announced the appointment of the following individuals to the Graduate Faculty:

Dr. Michael Pennell – College Writing Program
Dr. Deirdre Byrne – Graduate School of Oceanography
Dr. Martha Rojas – English
Dr. Jennifer Jones – English
Dr. Beth Marcoux – Physical Therapy
Dr. Robin Katzanek – Physical Therapy
Dr. Patrick Martin – Natural Resource Science

- B. Associate Dean Bibb announced that a new proposal has been received for a Post-baccalaureate certificate in Digital Forensics. The proposal must be reviewed by the New Program Committee.

V. Committee Reports

- A. Curriculum Committee

- i. New Business

STEM Programs (other than Psychology)

Deletions Approved:

MIC 401 Quantitative Cell Culture
MIC 403 Introduction to Electron Microscopy
MIC 405 Electron Microscopy
MIC 503 Electron Microscopy
MIC 505 Laboratory in Electron Microscopy
MIC 514 The Electron Microscopy in Molecular and Cellular Biology
MIC 412 Food Microbiology
MIC 421 Cell Biology and Cancer
BCH 435 Physical Chemistry for Life Sciences
BCH 484 Physical Methods in Biochemistry
BCH 542 Proteins: Purification & Characterization
BCH 583 Metabolism
BCH 584 Membrane Biochemistry
NRS 451 Soil and Water Conservation Technology
NRS 430 Forest Resource Management
NRS 582 Seminar in Soil Ecology and Biochemistry

Changes Approved:

NRS 516 Advanced Remote Sensing – change in title

New Courses Approved:

CSC 485 Computer Forensics

CSC 486 Network Forensics

CSC 585 Topics in Computer Forensics

CSC 586 Topics in Network Forensics

Non STEM Programs and Psychology

New Courses Approved:

FLM 491 Directed Studies in Film Media

CMD 550 A,B,C Audiology for Speech-Language Pathologists

CMD 562 A,B,C Speech-Language Pathology for Audiologists

EDC 562X Methods of Intervention for Literacy Difficulties

PSY 696 Practicum: Teaching Psychology (1 Nay Vote)

Changes Approved:

CMD 583 Acquired Cognitive-Communication Disorders – change from elective to required for Speech-Language Pathology students

Degree requirements for the M.S. in Speech-Language Pathology by omitting CMD 454 and 551 and replacing with CMD 550 A,B,C

Degree requirements for Au.D. students by omitting CMD 561 and 584/585 and replacing with CMD 562 A,B, C

Change in catalog description for non-thesis Biological Sciences MS degree

Items Tabled:

PSY 635 Transtheoretical Model Applied to Health Psychology – This course proposal is being tabled for library impact statement and prerequisite for Item #5.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.