

University of Rhode Island
The Graduate School
Graduate Council Meeting No. 412, September 29, 2006
MINUTES

Council Members Present: *Cristin Ashmankas, Stephen Barber, Katie Branch, Steven Carey, Gale Eaton, Chong Lee, Kevin McClure, Martin Sadd, Henry Schwarzbach, Sarina Wyant*

Others Present: *Associate Dean Judy Beckman, Associate Dean Harold Bibb, Ms. Ruth Gormly, Prof. David Chelidze, Prof. James Kowalski, Prof. Beth Marcoux, Prof. Ying Sun*

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by Associate Dean Harold Bibb.

II. The Minutes of Meeting No. 411 were approved.

III. Announcements

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

Dr. David Miller – Psychology
Dr. Richard McKinney – Natural Resources Science
Dr. Robert Rockwell – Natural Resources Science
Dr. Jerry DeSchepper – Film Media
Dr. David Augeri – Natural Resources Science
Dr. Patricia Gallagher – Psychology
Dr. William Dewar – Oceanography
Dr. Peter Covino – English
Dr. Michael Reed – Natural Resources Science
Prof. Barbara Meagher Smith – Journalism
Dr. Esther Peters – Natural Resources Science
Dr. Russell Green – Civil Engineering
Dr. Peter Dadalt – Business
Dr. Silvia Dorado – Business
Dr. Rob DeSalle – Plant Sciences
Dr. Edward Walsh - Oceanography

B. Associate Dean Beckman reported that during the summer, she had met with several Graduate Program Directors to review: 1) the Annual Performance Review form for Graduate Students; 2) to become more familiar with the programs; 3) and for a sense of the issues that students are facing when they come into the Graduate School office. She will continue to meet with other Graduate Program Directors during the school year.

C. The Graduate Council had previously approved the request for Annual Performance reviews for graduate students. Dean Beckman noted that the Graduate School needs this review as a means to assess where the graduate student stands in the Graduate program and to know of any other issues outside the realm of what the student's grades are that will show in their performance. Associate Dean Beckman will send out an informational memo to all Graduate Program Directors and members of the Graduate

Council about the annual performance review form. The Graduate School needs documentation in the student file that the student has been reviewed once a year and also acknowledges what the individual student's performance is. Because the form doesn't fit all programs, Dean Beckman is willing to accept changes to the form which are modified to fit the individual graduate program.

- D. Associate Dean Beckman announced that the On-line documents on the Graduate School website are to be made interactive and that all forms will be made in PDF format.
- E. Associate Dean Beckman noted that the Policies and Procedures memorandum from the Faculty Senate concerning processing of curricular materials had been distributed to the Graduate Council for information.
- F. Associate Dean Bibb reported that he had recently met with the Provost and new Vice Provost for Academic Affairs to review graduate student enrollment and recruitment. The numbers are up overall compared to last year. A discussion followed, and issues noted included: a need to continue to increase the size of the student stipends, that the most effective recruiters are faculty in the graduate program, and that faculty should be involved in recruiting efforts. Associate Dean Bibb will be in touch with suggestions, guidance and advice on enrollment and recruitment issues.
- G. Reminder – the Coordinator for Diversity Affairs, Padma Venkatraman, has scheduled a Diversity Coordination meeting on Monday at 3:30 p.m. at the University Club. Graduate Directors, Deans and graduate faculty have been invited to attend to discuss coordinating the efforts to recruit underrepresented students in STEM disciplines. A newsletter is also being prepared by Dr. Venkatraman and will be distributed by mail in the near future.
- H. On November 30, the recruitment of underrepresented graduate students has been scheduled for November 30 at University of Massachusetts-Amherst. Associate Dean Beckman asked for Graduate Council participation.

IV. New Business

- A. Election of Nominating Committee
The Nominating Committee will meet at the end of today's meeting to set a time to meet with Associate Dean Bibb for a review of the self-nomination forms for Graduate Council sub-committees.
- B. Members of the Graduate Council filled in the self-nomination forms for the Graduate Council sub-committees.

V. Committee Reports

- A. Curriculum Committee
 - i. New Business
 - STEM Programs (other than Psychology) – Presented by Dr. Martin Sadd
 - New X Courses Approved (During Summer):
 - NRS 404X/504X Applied Terrestrial Ecology
 - PSY400X – Quantitative Methods in Psychology

Course Renewal Approved:

NUR 553X Management of Fiscal/Operational Resources in Healthcare

Deletions Approved:

BIO 460 Advanced Population Biology

BIO 501 Systematic Biology

BIO 522 Plant Molecular Biology

BIO 531 Advanced Parasitology Seminar

BIO 547 Laboratory in Electrophysiological Techniques

BIO 562 Seminar in Behavioral Ecology

BIO 566 Herpetology

BIO 568 Ornithology

BIO 570 Field Biology of Fishes

BIO 666 Biology of Metamorphosis

BIO 668 Biology of Reproduction of Animals

BIO 679 Animal Communication

Changes Approved:

MTC (MIC) 483 Introductory Diagnostic Microbiology - change in Lec./Lab

AFS(MIC) 538 Epidemiology of Viral and Rickettsial Diseases – change in title, credits, Lec./Lab, prerequisite, and catalog description

MTH 435 Introduction to Mathematical Analysis I – change in prerequisite

MTH 437 Advanced Calculus and Application I – change in prerequisite

MTH 425 Topology – change in prerequisite

Courses Approved:

MAF 494 Cases in Marine Policy – from X course to permanent course

CSC 418/ELE 438 Information and Network Security

Deletion Tabled:

BCH/BIO 454 Genetics Laboratory – Request for additional information – why the course is moving from 400 level to undergraduate level.

ii. Non STEM Programs (plus Psychology) – Presented by Prof. Katie Branch

New Business

Changes Approved:

HDF 421 Death, Dying and Bereavement – change in prerequisite

HDF 458X RI Early Learning Standards – change from 2-credit temporary course to 3-credit permanent course

LSC 527 Information Literacy Instruction – change in course description

New Course – Approved pending library impact statement:

HDF 540 Interdisciplinary Teamwork in Health, Human Services, and Education

Deletion Approved – Pending above library impact statement:

HSS 530 Multidisciplinary Health Seminars for the Elderly

B. New Program Committee

i. New Business

Associate Dean Bibb announced the receipt of Post-baccalaureate Certificates in Women's Studies and in Nursing Education. A proposal for a Dual Degree Doctoral Program with the University of Braunschweig has been received and will be forwarded to the Provost and the Council of Deans and to the Budget Office for a response. It will then go out for a 30-day period to the University community for comment.

VI. *New Business*

Assoc. Dean Judy Beckman thanked Prof. Martin Sadd and Prof. Katie Branch for their work through the summer for X course approvals received by June 30. Meetings were held by email for forwarding for the temporary course newsletter by July 30.

VII. *Adjournment*

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.