

University of Rhode Island
The Graduate School
Graduate Council Meeting No. 423, December 17, 2007
MINUTES

Council Members Present: *Steven Carey, Gale Eaton, Brian Gallagher, Chong Lee, Wayne Lee, Beth Marcoux, Jean Miller, Kevin McClure, William Rosen, David Smith*

Others Present: *Vice Provost Lynn Pasquerella, Associate Dean Harold Bibb, Associate Dean Keith Killingbeck, Ms. Ruth Gormly*

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:06 p.m. by Associate Dean Harold Bibb.

II. The Minutes of Meeting No. 422 were approved.

III. Announcements

A. Associate Dean Harold Bibb announced the appointment of the following individuals to Graduate Faculty:

Dr. Matthew Stoner – Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Dr. Angela Slitt – Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Dr. Abrahm Kovoor – Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Asst. Prof. Matthew Frankel – English

Asst. Prof. Christopher Roman – Oceanography

B. Associate Dean Keith Killingbeck reported that the Graduate School has partnered with the Faculty Senate to create an interactive electronic submission for course proposals. The proposed submission form, along with the electronic signature page, was circulated to the Graduate Council for review. Any comments, additions, or corrections should be sent to Keith Killingbeck. It is anticipated that the final version of the proposed form will be completed by the end of this week. Eric Benevides is currently working on the form for electronic submission of minor course changes and deletions. If needed, a training workshop on the submission process will be scheduled. Dean Killingbeck agreed to work with Eric to determine whether a system for tracking the proposals can be implemented.

IV. Vice Provost Discussion Items

A. Review of Council of Graduate Schools Meeting

Vice Provost Pasquerella and Associate Deans Bibb and Killingbeck recently attended the Annual Meeting of the Council of Graduate Schools held in Seattle, Washington from December 5-8, 2007. The keynote address given by Lee Shulman, President of the Carnegie Foundation, reported on 10 years of study on graduate education. One topic of discussion included a movement by some Graduate Schools to consider making Ph.D. programs more similar to professional graduate degree programs. At least two concerns are driving this movement: 1) Ph.D. students taking a long time to get their doctorate; 2) and a lack of professional preparation.

Assoc. Dean Bibb will plan a meeting for Graduate Directors in the spring to focus on the book, *Formation of Scholars*, written by Schulman.

- B. Associate Dean Bibb discussed upcoming changes from ETS and graduate applications. There is a concern regarding the GRE test and sensitivity issues, particularly with language bias in some questions. The GRE is being re-engineered to remove any cultural bias that may be inherent in some of the questions. The new test is unlikely to be introduced in 2008, most likely not before 2009. The number of GRE tests given each year continues to increase, possibly because it is being used internationally and as a supplement to the SAT's.
- C. Associate Dean Killingbeck reported that all graduate students, after successfully defending their thesis/dissertation, are given several options regarding publication and distribution by ProQuest. The two primary options are: a) traditional publication of the thesis/dissertation or b) open access publications. In the former option, a buyer may simply purchase the thesis/dissertation and have it sent to them by ProQuest. In the latter option, ProQuest places the thesis/dissertation on-line such that there is free access to it by anyone. One problem with this latter option is that there are still a number of journals suggesting that, if a thesis/dissertation has already been published in any way, a manuscript based on information in the thesis/dissertation will not be considered for publication in that journal. It is critical for students to know what their choices are for publication.

V. ***Committee Reports***

A. Associate Dean Harold Bibb reported that the Policy and Procedures Committee met to review the gap in language in University Manual 4.70.10 concerning graduate faculty status. The Manual calls for a review of Graduate Faculty status every four years by the Department or Program. The Policy and Procedures Committee has prepared a draft of language changes to the University Manual regarding Graduate Faculty status. The draft will be circulated to the Graduate Council for a vote at the next meeting.

The language in the University Manual regarding eligibility for holding an assistantship has also been reviewed by the Policy and Procedures Committee. The Manual language states that the student must be full time and must be registered for a minimum of six credits to be eligible for an assistantship. The Graduate School presently holds that a student is also considered full time when the student is in the terminal semester and is preparing a thesis or dissertation for defense, even if registered for fewer than six credits. Language changes to the University Manual will be prepared indicating that students are considered full time in their terminal semester. The draft will be circulated for a vote at the next meeting.

B. Curriculum Committee

New Business

Change Tabled:

CVE 460 Steel Structures – change in catalog description

Changes Approved:

IME 404 Engineering Economy and Project Planning – change in course number

IME 411 Probability and Statistics for Engineers – change in course number

IME 412 Statistical Methods and Quality Control – change in course number and catalog description

IME 432 Operations Research: Deterministic Systems – change in course number

IME 433 Operations Research: Stochastic Systems – change in course number

IME 443 Machining and Machine Tools – change in course number

IME 444 Assembly and Handling Automation – change in course number
IME 446 (or MCE 446) Metal Deformation Processes – change in course number
IME 449 (or MCE 449) Product Design for Manufacture – change in course number and prerequisite
IME 451 Industrial Engineering Design I – change in course number and catalog description
IME 452 Industrial engineering Design II – change in course number
IME 460 Product Design for Environment – change in course number
IME 491 Special Problems – change in course number
IME 492 Special Problems – change in course number
NRS 509 Concepts of CIS in Enviromental Science – change in title and course description

New Course Approved:

CHE 564 Reaction Engineering

2. Non STEM Programs (plus Psychology)

New Courses Approved:

CMD 565 Pre-Practicum in Speech-Language Pathology

EDC 523 Web Site Technology in Education and Training

WMS 401/501 Human Trafficking and Contemporary Slavery (1 Nay)

WMS 402/502 Campaigns and Services for Victims of Trafficking and Slavery

TMD 432 Fashion Retail Supply Chain Management

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.