MINUTES
Graduate Council
September 17, 2009

Present: Ex officio: M. Sohn (Chairperson) R.L. Alford


Guests: R. Bonhomme, E. Kalajian, S. Koksal, C. Young

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 PM.

Dr. Alford introduced Dr. Rosemary Layne as the new Director of Graduate Programs. She was warmly welcomed by all members and guests. Dr. Alford advised the members that there will be a Teaching Assistant Seminar offered in Spring 2010 and each Spring thereafter. He asked everyone to keep his or her department heads advised of Graduate Council business. He also noted that a new version of the calendar for Graduate Council meetings has been distributed, requesting that departments take notice of the deadlines for submission of materials for those meetings.

1) MINUTES OF THE APRIL 16, 2009 GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the April meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Dr. Tomadakis and a second by Dr. Sharma.

2) REVISION TO UNIVERSITY CATALOG REGARDING CLARIFICATION OF REQUIREMENTS TO REMOVE DEFICIENCIES.

Majority vote to deny change to the current wording in the catalog.

This request was reviewed by the Committee on Standards which unanimously recommended denial.

Dr. Strother requested that the COS explain the rationale.

Dr. Gallo responded that each department has latitude to make its own decisions concerning the deficiencies of their students. The wording in the catalog paragraph mentioning deficiencies is intentionally vague to allow discretion and the COS supports this as written.

The vote was called by Dr. Sohn, resulting in 9 votes to deny changing the wording with 5 abstentions. The denial carried.
REMARKS FROM FLOOR

Dr. Layne opened her remarks by thanking the office staff of Graduate Programs for their successful efforts in keeping the office working in good order during the difficult times of the past year. She also thanked the council members for accepting their positions, noting the importance of the work that is done by the council to the University. She spoke about her initial plans for the Office of Graduate Programs – improvements to be made in posting current information for all students to let them know about the office and what we can do for them.

The next meeting will be held on the 3rd Thursday, October 15, 2009.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:22 P.M.

Rosemary G. Layne
Director of Graduate Student Services