MINUTES

Graduate Council

January 21, 2010

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


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

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M.

Dr. Sohn welcomed everyone to the Council meeting, introduced new members Dr. Heidi Edwards, Dr. Mark Harvey, and Dr. Barry Webster and then introduced Senior Vice Provost Dr. Ray Bonhomme to address the Council members. Dr. Bonhomme advised that the university deadline is May 1st for curriculum entries to be published in the catalog for the subsequent academic year. He stated that such entries placed on the Graduate Council Agenda by the final meeting of the academic year can be reflected in the next year’s catalog even if, in rare instances, there is remaining action to be finalized during the summer. He noted that Graduate Council has routinely submitted entries in sufficient time for inclusion and complimented the good work.

1) MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 2009 GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the November 19, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Dr. Richardson and a second by Dr. Sharma.

2) REVISED PROGRAMS FOR MS ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT AND FOR MS SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

Revisions approved

On a motion from Dr. Webster and a second from Dr. Rassoul, the vote was 15 in favor with 1 abstention.
3) **WAIVER OF S.O.L. – POLICY 2.8**

Unanimous Approval

Ms. Jessica Dutka-Gianelli – waive Policy 2.8 to extend Ph.D. comprehensive expiration deadline through the Spring 2010 term.

On a motion and a second from the Committee on Standards, the vote was unanimous to approve the waiver.

4) **POLICY REVISIONS – PSY D POLICIES 3.1, 3.2.2, and 3.4**

Unanimous approval to grant the requested revisions

On a motion and a second from the Committee on Standards, the vote was unanimous to approve the requested changes.

5) **NEW COURSE MAE 5790 (TABLED AT NOVEMBER 2009 MEETING)**

The vote was approval for the new course with title change.

After meeting to discuss the title for this new course, the Biology Department and the Mechanical and Aerospace Department have agreed to a change in title. The course title will be: *Selected Topics in Biomedical Engineering*.

The electronic voting was stopped in November when Biology requested Graduate Council review. The vote was called, resulting in 14 in favor with 2 abstentions.

6) **REMARKS FROM FLOOR**

Dr. Gallo pointed out that the university is 50 years old now and perhaps the time has come for more formal definition of what constitutes a “Special Topics” course. Dr. Sohn suggested that whenever a new course is being considered there must be discussion between departments if the title will use a description that seems to apply to another department. Dr. Kalajian observed that when a Special Topics course is used repeatedly it may be time to think about developing a formal new course. Other points touched on were about enrollment by students seeking a special interest; faculty/visiting faculty with a specialty curriculum area; and the potential for encroachment on other departments.

General agreement was that Dr. Gallo will ask the Committee on Standards to take a close look at “Special Topics” courses and possibly suggest a university wide policy on graduate level special topics courses.
There were no other remarks from the floor.

The next meeting will be held on the 3rd Thursday, February 18, 2010.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:24 P.M.

Rosemary G. Layne, Ed.D.
Director of Graduate Programs