MINUTES

Graduate Council

March 25, 2010

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


Guests: W. Arrasmith, R. Bonhomme, E. Kalajian, S. Koksal, T. Oswalt, C. Young

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

Dr. Sohn welcomed everyone to the Council meeting and introduced Dr. Alford to address the Council members. Dr. Alford reminded members that Policy 1.3.1 requires a master’s-level graduate student to have an approved program plan on file no later than one month prior to the completion of nine hours of graduate courses. He also reviewed Policy 2.5 which concerns the requirements for admission to candidacy for the doctoral degree (passing the doctoral comprehensive exam, dissertation proposal approved by the doctoral committee) then submitting to the Registrar the required form for admission to candidacy. Policy 2.6.2 addresses dissertation registration and when registration may be waived. Dr. Alford underscored the importance of following the specified progression and sequence of these requirements prior to dissertation registration. He thanked the members for their attention and for their continued good work.

1) MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 2010 GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the January 21, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Dr. Maul and a second by Dr. Richardson.

2) REVISED PROGRAMS FOR ED.D. LEVEL AND PH.D LEVEL IN MATHEMATICS EDUCATION AND IN SCIENCE EDUCATION

Unanimous Approval

Prior to voting, Dr. Sohn advised Council members of corrections to the Changing Graduation Requirements in a Major/Minor forms for the four programs included – the date to be initiated in the catalog will be year 2010/2011; the effective date for change will be August 2010 and the named term for effective date will be Fall 2010.

On a motion from Dr. Gallo and a second from Dr. Rassoul, the vote was unanimous for approval.
3) CURRICULUM MODIFICATION FOR MS IN COMPUTER EDUCATION

Unanimous Approval

On a motion from Dr. Maul and a second from Dr. Gallo, the vote was unanimous for approval.

4) REQUIRED COURSE CHANGE IN M.Ed. CURRICULUM (ELEMENTARY SCIENCE EDUCATION)

Unanimous approval

On a motion from Dr. Richardson and a second from Dr. Maul, the vote was unanimous to approve the requested changes.

5) REVISED PROGRAMS AT THE MS LEVEL AND THE Ph.D. LEVEL IN PHYSICS AND IN SPACE SCIENCES

Approved with one abstention

On a motion by Dr. Rassoul and a second from Dr. Gallo, the vote for the revisions was approved with one abstention.

6) NEW MAJOR – Ph.D. IN SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

Includes 4 new courses: SYS 6010 Advanced Topics in Decision & Risk Analysis, SYS 6020 Advanced Topics in Systems Modeling and Analysis, SYS 6030 Advanced Topics in Process Engineering and SYS 6040 Seminar in Systems Engineering

This item was tabled until the April 2010 Graduate Council meeting

Upon introduction of this agenda item to the Council, Dr. Dshalalow motioned to table this issue. The Mathematics department requests time to have discussion with the Systems Engineering department concerning possible over-lap of courses. Dr. Vamosi provided a second for the motion.

Dr. Arrasmith stated that this program is a logical step in order to extend what the department is already doing. He disagrees about course over-lap and says their courses are engineering oriented and advanced. He is concerned that any delay in considering this new major will delay a Fall 2010 start date, something his department is anticipating.

Dr. Koksal advised that Operations Research and Systems Engineering have a history of cooperation between the two for MS and PhD candidates in Operations Research. Since
Ph.D. advisors left Operations Research, faculty from Engineering Systems have been advising the OR candidates. The proposed program came as a surprise to Dr. Koksal’s department and she requests time to take the issue to a faculty meeting. Dr. Rassoul wondered if both departments had any discussion prior to this program being presented in this Council package. Dr. Koksal replied there have been no discussions – the motion to table is to allow a meeting of the departments to be held.

Dr. Arrasmith agreed that the Engineering department has a good relationship with Operations Research and they plan to continue. This proposal is for an Engineering degree, not Operations Research, and he requests no delay in review by the Council. He suggested that discussion could take place after Council approval since there is just one more meeting before the FA2010 term begins.

Discussion continued, touching on over-lap of courses, co-listed courses, interdisciplinary nature of the programs, importance of communication between departments, no reason to delay a vote in April after both departments have met and discussed this issue.

Dr. Sohn called for a vote – a YES vote to table until April or a NO vote not to table this item. The vote was 9 in favor of tabling, 2 opposed to tabling and 3 abstentions.

The proposed program will be tabled until the April 2010 Graduate Council meeting.

7) **REMARKS FROM THE FLOOR**

Dr. Sohn informed the members of the new BME prefix for Biomedical Engineering courses.

Dr. Layne advised that Graduate Policy 4.1.2. (Graduate Faculty Appointment) states that adjunct faculty appointments require action by the Graduate Council. In an effort to streamline office operations, Graduate Programs will begin using email (on a trial basis) as a means for members to review resumes and take action on proposed adjunct appointments.

Dr. Maul advised that next month would be Dr. Weigel’s last Graduate Council meeting due to his retirement and requested that the April meeting be proclaimed ‘Russ Weigel Day’.

There were no other remarks from the floor.

The next meeting will be held on the 3rd Thursday, April 15, 2010.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:03 P.M.

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