MINUTES

Graduate Council

March 24, 2011

Present: M. Sohn (Chairperson)

Voting Members: M. Baarmand, D. Carroll, J. Dshalalow, M. Gallo,
J. Martinez-Diaz, G. Maul, K. Mitra, J. Pinelli, T. Richardson,
V. Sharma, M. Silaghi, M. Tomadakis, A. Vamosi,
B. Webster

Guests: M. Bonhomme, H. Rassoul, C. Young

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m.

1) MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2011 GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING

Unanimously Approved

The minutes of the February 17, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Dr. Maul and a second by Dr. Dshalalow.

2) DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Dr. Rosemary Layne

Dr. Layne informed Graduate Council members that there are three new proposed Biology courses that are being circulated electronically for consideration (BIO 5011 Ornithology, BIO 5039 Plant Biogeography of the Southeastern USA, and BIO 5015 Lab Methods for Biotechnology). The vote for two of these courses has been suspended until all questions can be addressed.

Dr. Layne also addressed the upcoming review of full-time Graduate Faculty. Graduate Policy 4.1.2 requires each full-time member of the Graduate Faculty to reaffirm that he or she has shown significant activity in specified areas in order to continue as members of the Graduate Faculty. This is to be done at 5-year intervals following initial Graduate Faculty appointment. However, due to long term illness and subsequent passing of the former director, there has been a lengthy interruption in the regular review process. Consequently, it is anticipated that as many as 1/3 of the full-time graduate faculty will be due for reaffirmation this year. To facilitate the process, the Office of Graduate Programs plans to distribute the survey electronically to their respective departments for faculty to report on their own activities and attach a current curriculum vita. Dr. Layne stressed that the success of this process is dependent on the faculty signing and returning their response in a timely fashion for administrative review.

Dr. Rassoul indicated that he preferred the department head and college dean to sign on the bottom of the survey. The College of Science will take a proactive approach to ensure...
that all surveys are thoroughly reviewed by the dean. Dr. Rassoul confirmed that the College of Science would return the completed and signed surveys to Office of Graduate Programs by the two week submission deadline.

The last item that Dr. Layne addressed was the election of the Graduate Council Chair. The election was done by secret ballot following the formal business of today’s meeting. Ballots were distributed at this time in case anyone needed to leave. The chair will be elected for a two year term.

3) **NEW PROGRAM – Graduate Certificate Programs - BUS**

**Unanimously Approved**

The Nathan M. Bisk College of Business requested approval for six graduate certificate programs to be offered through the FL Tech Online partnership, providing a “Mini-MBA” approach.

Dr. Gallo raised the question of time restriction on the courses. He noted that some certificates do have a certain time span in which they need to be completed. Dr. Vamosi confirmed that the courses required for the certificate will follow the same statute of limitations policy as graduate courses. The certificate program will also abide by general graduate policy as a whole.

On a motion by Dr. Richardson and a second by Dr. Sharma, the vote resulted in unanimous approval.

There were no remarks from the floor.

The next meeting will be held on the 3rd Thursday, April 21, 2011.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

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