MINUTES
Graduate Council
February 16, 2012

Present: Ex officio: M. Sohn (Chairperson), M. Baloga


Guests: E. Kalajian, C. Young

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m.

1) ADDRESS COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dr. Baloga addressed fellow council members about the restructuring of Academic Affairs and her appointment as Dean of Graduate Programs. She does not anticipate any changes in procedure. In response to a council member inquiry, she responded that this responsibility is in addition to her other current functions.

2) MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 2012 GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING

Unanimously Approved

The minutes of the January 19, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Dr. Richardson and a second by Dr. Harvey.

3) DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Dr. Layne read an excerpt from the March 2007 Graduate Council Minutes regarding submission of new courses. She reminded council members of procedures and materials necessary when putting a new course forth.

She reported the electronic vote on the new course MAE 5330 Principles of Fuel Cells. The course passed with 14 votes of approval and three no response.

Dr. Layne also introduced the three psychology courses that were requested for Graduate Council review at today’s meeting; PSY 5003 Hypnotherapy, BEH 6302 Verbal Behavior, and BEH 6303 Experimental Analysis of Behavior.

She noted that one more course, CHE 5250 Hydrogen Technology, is still being circulated electronically and gently reminded council members to submit their vote if they have not done so already.
4) **GRADUATE FACULTY APPOINTMENT – Dr. Thierry BELLET & Dr. Gudela GROTE**

*Unanimously Approved at Master’s Level*

A request is made to appoint Dr. Thierry Bellet and Dr. Gudela Grote at the Doctoral level of Graduate Faculty for the Human Centered Design Ph.D. program. A motion by Dr. Maul and a second by Dr. Jennings opened the discussion. Dr. Sohn noted that the two nominees had no FL Tech affiliation. She informed council members that the intent is to allow these individuals to serve on (but not chair) doctoral committees.

Questions arose regarding employment and physical presence of these nominees given that they are not employees of Florida Tech. Although all committee members are required to be present for oral comprehensives, proposals, defenses etc., attendance may be “at a distance” via Skype, Adobe Connect or other synchronous technology. It was further noted that there are no restrictions for a part-time faculty member to chair a committee.

On a motion by Dr. Webster and a second by Dr. Harvey, the amendment to appoint the above listed individuals at the master’s level for Human Centered Design was unanimously agreed upon, voted *en bloc*, and approved.

Dr. Kalajan mentioned that Graduate Council may want to consider revising Graduate Policy in the future. He suggested that we may want to specify only one level of Graduate Faculty and enable the academic unit to decide service for individual master’s and doctoral student advising and service on student committees.

5) **ADDING A NEW COURSE – PSY 5003 Hypnotherapy (2 credit hours)**

*Unanimously Approved*

Request is made by the School of Psychology to add a new 2 credit hour course, **PSY 5003 Hypnotherapy**. Dr. Layne advised that the School of Psychology is retaining the course **PSY 5545 Clinical Hypnosis** as a 3 credit course and not modifying the course as previously requested in January’s Graduate Council Meeting. Rather than reducing the credit hours in **PSY 5545**, a new 2 credit hour course **PSY 5003 Hypnotherapy** is being created. There was a concern that students could take PSY 5003 and PSY 5545 and receive credits for both courses toward one program plan. Dr. Harvey assured fellow council members he will work on putting a restriction in place to prevent this from happening.

On a motion by Dr. Strother and a second by Dr. Maul, the vote resulted in 11 approvals, none opposed, and six abstentions.

6) **ADDING A NEW COURSE – BEH 6302 Verbal Behavior (3 credit hours)**

*Unanimously Approved*

Request is made by the School of Psychology to add a new 3 credit hour course, **BEH 6302 Verbal Behavior**. A council member was concerned with the “lack of meat” to the course, noting that assignments listed may not be sufficient for doctoral level coursework.
Dr. Harvey assured council members that the course reading level is advanced, it is required by all doctoral students, and Master's students will be discouraged from taking it for that reason. He explained that this is a preliminary syllabus and will change once an instructor is hired.

On a motion by Dr. Maul and a second by Dr. Harvey, the vote resulted in 12 approvals, none opposed, and three abstentions.

7) ADDING A NEW COURSE – BEH 6303 Experimental Analysis of Behavior (3 credit hours)

Approved

Request is made by the School of Psychology to add a new 3 credit hour course, BEH 6303 Experimental Analysis. It was noted that this course was listed as only one credit on the Adding a New Course Form and on the course syllabus. Dr. Harvey, course instructor, verified that the course will meet for 45 contact hours for three semester hour credits. It was also noted that the syllabus (page 46, Graduate Council packet #2) under the section titled “Sniffy Paper”, that the following sentence contained an error. It reads as follows, “Papers with greater than 350% of material from outside sources...”. Dr. Harvey addressed the typo of 350% and clarified that it is should read as 35%, not 350%.

On a motion by Dr. Maul and a second by Dr. Strother, the vote resulted in 12 approvals and one opposed, and two abstentions.

Dr. Sohn reminded council members that there are only two more Graduate Council meetings left for this academic year. If the academic units have material that they would like to submit, they must do so right away.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 22, 2012 (4th Thursday due to Spring Break).

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m.

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