

School of Graduate Studies

Graduate Council Minutes

May 7, 2009

Members Present: Janzow, presiding; Athinarayanan, Bertrand, Branscum, Chamberlain, Dow, Gunn, Heischmidt, Jackson, Judd, Kiehne, Koch, Roberts, Taylor, Zen. Visitors: Drs. Overmann, Sprengel and Ms. Nice and Tanz.

The Excellence in Research Award was presented to Lisa Nice from the Department of Communication Disorders and the Excellence in Teaching Award was presented to Michele Tanz from the Department of Nursing. Both received a certificate and \$500.00.

Minutes of February 19, 2009 and March 26, 2009 were approved. (Jackson/Roberts)

Dean's Report:

- One project the Academic Standards Committee will be asked to look at in the future is continuous enrollment.
- Janzow will be taking a serious look at GSAC to determine if it should continue.
- The Office of the Vice Provost and School of Graduate Studies had to deal with budget cuts of 2% for instructional units and 3% for non-instructional units. In doing so, the graduate student professional development fund and graduate faculty mini-grant fund were closed but a small amount of funds may be available for these types of requests through operations.

GSAC Report: No Report

Academic Standards Committee Report (Taylor):

- Taylor submitted a document of his committee's recommendations resulting from the review of all academic standards and policies of the School of Graduate Studies. These changes were approved, as amended. (Chamberlain/Judd)

Assessment Committee Report (Judd):

Department Chairpersons were interviewed to find out what each program does and 1-10 randomly selected samples from each were reviewed by Judd's committee. On a positive note, all programs were satisfactory but the committee noted the following:

- 1) critical thinking component was weak
- 2) use of web pages and non-peer reviewed sources were prevalent
- 3) one act of plagiarism was found
- 4) departments should think more how students' projects fit into the programs
- 5) variation in formatting should be addressed
- 6) departments should define some type of scoring ruberick for projects
- 7) all departments should archive all projects

Curriculum Committee Report (Branscum):

- Branscum's committee approved the items on the agenda.

Discussion Items:

- Continuous Enrollment is being deferred to the Academic Standards Committee.
- Members were asked to talk to their departments regarding the proposed requirement that all capstone projects be submitted to the School of Graduate Studies for discussion at a future meeting.

Action Items:

- Master of Science in Nursing Dismissal Policy **approved**. (Judd/Roberts)
- New Program: Master of Science in Environmental Science **approved**. (Jackson/Taylor)
- New Program: Certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorders **tabled**.

Information Items:

Courses Approved Via Electronic Vote:

- EL625 Specialized Assessment in Literacy Instruction (as amended)
- EL630 Designing Individual Literacy Lessons: Clinical I (as amended)
- EL631 Designing Individual Literacy Lessons: Clinical II (as amended)
- EL680 Small Group Intervention Instruction (as amended)
- EL681 Differentiated Literacy Instruction for Classroom Teachers (as amended)
- EX555 Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders (as amended)
- EX556 Language Acquisition & Communication Strategies (as amended)
- EX557 Behavior Management & Interventions (as amended)
- EX558 Seminar: Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders (as amended)
- EX559 Clinical Practicum (as amended)
- FN601 Sports Nutrition (as amended)
- FN627 Essentials of Food Science (as amended)
- MK555 Internet Marketing

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.