

Minutes of the Graduate Faculty Senate
January 27, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Lee Wilkins at 3:00 p.m. in S208 Memorial Union.

Senators and administrative representatives attending: Lee Wilkins, Ian Aberbach, Teresa Cooney, Gail Fitzgerald, Judith Goodman, Andrew Hoberek, Alan Strathman, Michael Urban, Steve Van Doren, Pam Benoit, Jana Moore, Sheryl Tucker, and Ruth Erwin (Graduate School).

Senators and administrative representatives absent: Sandra Erdelez, Naz Islam, Glenn Leshner, Anthony Lupo, Jan Segert, Ken Shaw, and Kate Hertweck.

Dr. Wilkins thanked everyone who participated in the Appeal cases. She indicated that the letters regarding the decisions had been sent out.

A motion and second were made to approve the minutes of December 9, 2008. The minutes were approved with the corrections made.

Graduate School Report

NRC Update

Dr. Benoit updated an update on the NRC. She indicated that the report had been delayed again. The new date for the methodology guide is February 15. The Council of Graduate Schools is preparing a media plan upon release of the data. Dr. Benoit is working with the Council of Graduate Schools on the media release.

Old Business

Senate Composition

Dr. Tucker provided an updated on the composition of the Senate. In 2001 a review was undertaken on Senate composition at our peer institutions. It was discussed to make the Senate a smaller more committed group of individual representing the various Schools and Colleges. The number was taken from 31 to 16 and voted on by the entire graduate faculty in 2002. A subcommittee of Judith Goodman and Terri Cooney will look possible alternative composition to see if School/College representation needs to be changed.

By-Laws

Dr. Tucker indicated that the current by-laws had been posted to Blackboard. Dr. Wilkins indicated that she would draft new language for the by-laws and then repost to Blackboard for the Senate's input. Three items to be addressed in the proposed by-

laws are: a stronger preamble, how to handle proxy votes, and responsibilities for Senators and Committees.

New Business

Discontinued Courses

A motion and second was made to give the Graduate School the authority to approve discontinued courses. The motion was made due to the determination that the GFS did not have the ability to ask a department to continue to offer courses that they could no longer teach. The motion was approved.

Course Proposals

Prior to discussion on the specific course proposals for the meeting a discussion was held on what specific information the Academic Affairs Committee wanted to see included with the 7000 courses that were crossleveled with 4000 undergraduate courses. A motion and second was made to give conditional approval for the 43 course proposals and 20 discontinued courses to the Graduate School to insure that all concerns indicated on Blackboard by the Senators are resolved so that the course proposals can be sent to the Registrar before February 1. The motion was approved.

Course Deadlines

Dr. Tucker indicated she had discovered that the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee had proposed new deadline dates for Course Proposal forms. The new deadlines are December 10 and June 15 with the forms due to the Registrar on January 10 and August 15. She asked the Senate to think about whether they would also like to conform to the undergraduate deadlines.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m. due to a lack of quorum.

Submitted by,

Ruth Erwin
Graduate School

Sheryl Tucker
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