

Graduate Council Minutes February 21, 2005

Members Present: Deans Huntley, Harbinson, Senior Associate Dean Johnson, Associate Dean Henson, Drs. Burwell, Coffey, Harris, Hirst, Hoepfl, James, McGaha, Tashakkori, Wachs, Witmer, and Mr. Tilley

Guests: Dr. Ken Mullin (Criminal Justice)

Members Absent: Deans Duke (excused), Estep (excused), Schoenfeldt (excused), Drs. Atkins (excused), Jackson (excused), Kernodle (excused), Mamlin (excused), Olson (excused), Parrott (excused), Williams (excused), and Mr. Rankins (excused)

1. The February meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Dr. Edelma Huntley in 387 John Thomas Hall
2. The revised minutes from the January 24, 2005 meeting were approved.
3. **Announcements/Reports**
 - 3.1 Dr. Huntley introduced Dr. Peter Wachs who is assisting the Graduate School during the transition period. Dr. Wachs presented the report from Graduate Studies on applicants for Fall 2005 admission. Each council member was given a copy of the report, showing application data as of February for the years 1996-2005.
 - Summary of Applications for Fall 2005 as of February 2005
 - The total number of applicants in all programs is 523
 - This represents an increase of 21% over the same time last year
 - The number of non-resident applicants is 210, or 40% of all applicants
 - Dr. Huntley will be using these numbers for assistantship allocations.
 - 3.2 Dr. Johnson had several announcements before giving his report:
 - a) Several faculty and administrators took a trip to UNC-Asheville last week for discussions on possible collaboration with that campus on research, grant-writing, faculty and student exchanges, etc. Dr. Johnson is in contact with his counterpart at UNC-A and both sides are very eager to work together in the future.
 - b) *Appalachian Explorations* – a new publication that will replace the old *Research News*. It will be a 16 pp. publication focusing on scholarship, with 2-3 pp. of research notes. It will be distributed to approximately 43,000 individuals as part of Appalachian Today with the goal of spreading the word about the scholarship going on at ASU.

- c) Grant Writing Seminar – will be held on Friday, April 1 for the Arts and Humanities. Leslie Brown, who works in proposal development at UNC-Charlotte, will lead the seminar.
- d) Dr. Johnson also is working with Grant Holder and Dennis Grady on proposal development. Their goal is to identify potential funding opportunities and to seek faculty members or teams of faculty members to pursue the funding.
- e) University Research Council – The URC received 43 grant applications; it can typically fund 16 or 17 requests. The committee has \$70,000 to allocate and has been petitioned for over \$145,000.
- f) Funding letters for student thesis/dissertation requests went out February 21. Almost all students received some money, though perhaps not the full amount requested.

Dr. Johnson presented the report from Research and Sponsored Programs. Each council member was given a packet of summaries for July 1, 2004 through January 31, 2005. In the report was the following information:

- _ \$219,825 was awarded in January 2005
- _ 107 grant proposals totaling \$14,309,270 have been submitted this fiscal year
- _ To date, the dollar amount of submitted proposals is down 44% over the same time last year
- _ 86 grants totaling \$5,268,528 have been awarded
- _ The dollar amount of awarded grants is down 57% over the same time last year

3.3 Dr. Huntley gave the Dean's Report for Graduate Studies & Research. Each council Member was given a packet about Professional Master's Degree Programs being planned for the Graduate School. Dr. Huntley reported on a task force made up of industry, government and NGO representatives that has provided advisement on these professional master's programs, and she said a follow-up survey will be posted online on the UNC Office of the President's web page. Another survey, run by Dr. Wachs, will gauge student interest in the PSMs being considered.

Dr. Huntley also reported on several other upcoming surveys that will be conducted by the Graduate School. One such survey will on overall graduate student satisfaction, including questions about assistantships, faculty interactions, advising, graduate school procedures, funding, etc. A second survey will focus specifically on assistantships, aimed at developing a set of best practices based on the experiences of graduate students and faculty across the departments.

Lastly, the Provost's Office has convened a task force to evaluate graduate education at Appalachian.

4. New Business

4.1 Proposals

A. College of Arts and Sciences

The Department of Anthropology had one proposal. This proposal was presented by Dr. Richard Henson

ANT #2 proposed to change the course title of ANT 5565 from “Political Economy, Globalization and Rural Development” to “Agrarian Studies and Rural Development” and to change the course description.

A suggestion was made to remove the words “Multi-Cultural” from the new course description.

A motion to approve was made and seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The Department of Political Science/Criminal Justice had one proposal. This proposal was presented by Dr. Ken Mullin.

PS/CJ #42 proposed the creation of a new Master of Science degree program – the Master of Science in Criminal Justice and Criminology.

A discussion was held about the degree’s non-thesis track option, a future off-campus program in Hickory, other Master’s C.J. programs at UNC-system schools, dual listed courses, electives, criteria for acceptance, and the possibility of a future partnership with the Chemistry Department for a forensic science option.

A motion to approve was made and seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss

- 6.** The next scheduled meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. in room 387 of John Thomas Hall.

- 7.** Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Written by Sarah Sanders and
Submitted to the Graduate Council by
Susan Triplett, Secretary to the Council