

The University of Akron  
Minutes of the Graduate Faculty  
November 14, 2002

Dr. George Newkome called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Faculty in attendance: Carolyn Anderson, Xuan-Hien Dang, Paul Daum, Roger Durbin, Ray Gehani, Virginia Gunn, Pat Hill, Judith Lewis, Therese Lueck, Isadore Newman, Tim O'Neil, Rex Ramsier, and Julia Spiker.

1. Dr. Paul Daum moved to approve the minutes of the Fall 2002 Graduate Faculty meeting as written. Dr. Carolyn Anderson seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.
2. Dr. Rex Ramsier, Vice Chair of Graduate Council, provided a report to the Graduate Faculty. A copy of his report is attached.

Dr. Roger Durbin presented the report of Dr. Del Williams, who could not attend the meeting. A copy of that report is attached.

Dr. Virginia Gunn questioned whether or not there has been any discussion on the book situation, as there appears to have been a large cut.

Dr. Roger Durbin responded that the Library Committee of Faculty Senate has brought this up.

Dr. Isadore Newman said there seems to be less of a budget for serials and journals, but there is a budget for periodicals.

Dr. Roger Durbin replied that there are fewer serials due to the lack of carry over to help pay for the purchase of serials.

Dr. George Newkome stated that costs are doubling, and the book and journal days seem to be numbered. There is going to be a greater movement toward online publications.

Dr. Roger Durbin said that only twenty percent of journals are available electronically.

Dr. Isadore Newman added that you couldn't operate a university without a strong library.

Dr. Thomas Gaylord, Vice President for Information and Instructional Technology, Libraries, and Institutional Planning, was not present. No report was provided.

No report was provided from Graduate Student Government.

Dr. Newkome began his report by stating that he is trying to figure out a way to deal with issues at this university that have been in place for a long time. His main concern is acquiring accurate data. Dr. Newkome stated that he is having a very difficult time getting accurate data related to graduate student enrollment. He added that he discovered that up through Spring 2002 the College of Education was reported as being down 2,000 credit hours, thus suffering a loss of \$330,000. Dr. Newkome questioned why he didn't know this and how some measure can be put into place to stop this.

Dr. Newkome said that in the early 1990s the idea was to get as much subsidy as possible, thus signing students up for 15 credit hours each semester. This ceased in 1994. Dr. Newkome stated that all graduate students must be registered by the 14<sup>th</sup> day headcount. For those funded graduate students, specifically doctoral students, the first two years of registration would reflect an enrollment of 15 credit hours per semester, then shifting to nine credits for fall semester, nine credits for spring semester, and six credits in the summer. Following this pattern, the student should graduate in five and a half years. Dr. Newkome added that for international students, INS is requiring that the student be out after his/her program is completed.

Lastly, Dr. Newkome stated that another factor in the graduate student enrollment situation is the courses that the students are taking. He has found that master's students are enrolling in doctoral research hours (899 credits).

Dr. Isadore Newman stated that with the continued increase in tuition private colleges are becoming more competitive with public institutions.

Dr. Carolyn Anderson asked if graduate money goes into the general fund.

Dr. Newkome responded that there are two funds. One fund pays the graduate student salary and one pays the graduate student tuition. The total of these funds is \$20 million and given by the university.

Dr. Newkome mentioned that there is a new system that will be put in place for international students beginning in January 2003. It's called SEVIS. This system requires that the university report to INS the number of years it takes a student to finish a degree, and the student cannot arrive early and cannot stay beyond completion of his/her degree program.

### 3. Action Items Referred from Graduate Council

There were not items for discussion.

4. Old Business

There was no old business for discussion.

5. New Business

Dr. Isadore Newman suggested that Dr. Newkome might want to speak to the colleges and departments regarding the information, which he shared at this meeting, because these things are going to change how we do business here, especially with regard to data reporting.

Dr. Carolyn Anderson stated that there is no release time granted to faculty for master's theses that they direct. Could a policy be put in place to allow such release time?

Dr. Newkome responded that this seems to be a college and/or department issue.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather A. Blake  
Graduate School