

The University of Akron
Minutes of Graduate Council
March 26, 2007

The Graduate Council met on Monday March 26, 2007 in the Student Union, Room 314. M. D'Amico presided. Present were M. Tausig, H. Blake, F. Broadway, J. Cheh, T. Hallett, M. Hoo Fatt, L. Ju, K. Kern, H. Li, H. Nunn, D. Reneker, K. Schwarz, and M. Triage

Absent: J. Hu and C. Bramlett

Absent with notice: B. Bagatto

Call to Order

M. D'Amico called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Roll Call

H. Blake recorded the attendance of all Graduate Council members present.

Approval of Minutes

D. Reneker made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2007 meeting.

M. Triage seconded the motion.

The minutes of February 26, 2007 were approved.

Comments

M. Tausig stated that a request has been made to increase the graduate assistant budget by 5%. The budget hearing committee received the request; however, to date, no decision has been made. There has been no increase in the graduate assistant budget since 2001.

Beginning with the fall semester the Graduate School will become more active in the recruitment of graduate students by attending various graduate fairs. The Graduate School has developed a new brochure through, which should become available shortly.

Lastly, outgoing members of Graduate Council were reminded to submit nominees for their replacements.

Committee Reports

Student Policy Committee – No report.

Curriculum committee - T. Hallett reported that the committee reviewed and approved 26 curriculum proposals. The log of proposals recommended by the committee was approved as distributed.

Proposals approved were: FAA-07-131, FAA-07-138, FAA-07-141, FAA-07-112, FAA-07-114, FAA-07-115, ED-07-11, ED-07-29, ED-07-30, ED-07-31, ED-07-33, ED-07-34, ED-07-35, ED-07-37, ED-07-45, EN-07-20, EN-07-30, EN-07-40, EN-07-50, EN-07-60, EN-07-80, AS-07-101, AS-07-102, AS-07-100, AS-07-096, and AS-07-099.

Graduate Faculty Membership Committee – H. Nunn reported that one graduate faculty application was reviewed and approved by the committee after further information was received from the applicant's department. The log of application recommended by the committee was approved as distributed.

Helen Richter

Old Business

M. Tausig recommended approval of the final draft of the policy for Delay of Electronic Publication of a Thesis or Dissertation. This final draft incorporates a newly added sentence pertaining to those students in the NEOMFA program. The draft was unanimously approved.

M. Tausig recommended approval of the final draft of the policy for Use of Copyrighted Materials in a Thesis or Dissertation. Eleven ayes in support of the draft and one opposed. The draft was approved.

New Business

F. Broadway distributed a draft Resolution Toward Equity and Excellence in Graduate Education. A copy of this resolution has been appended to these minutes.

Members of the Council responded to this drafted resolution with many questions for H. Li and F. Broadway. Graduate Council members questioned whether the issue about part time faculty affects many colleges within the university. After much discussion, M. Triage made a motion that Graduate Council supports the Resolution Toward Equity and Excellence in Graduate Education. The motion was seconded by F. Broadway. The motion passed with 6 ayes, one nay, and 3 abstentions.

M. Triage made a second motion that the Graduate Council should establish an ad hoc committee for fact finding about qualifications of faculty within the various colleges/departments. F. Broadway seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

An Ad Hoc committee was formed to develop and analyze data related to the resolution. F. Broadway, H. Li, and T. Hallett were selected as members of this committee, though additional membership may be necessary.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Schwarz".

Karen Schwarz
Secretary

**UNIVERSITY OF AKRON
GRADUATE COUNCIL
RESOLUTION [DRAFT]**

INTRODUCED BY: Francis Broadway & Huey-li Li

SUBJECT: Toward Equity and Excellence in Graduate Education

TYPE: Resolution of Policy Initiative

WHEREAS the Graduate Council serves as "the executive committee of the graduate faculty and shall represent graduate faculty in proposing matters of academic policy and procedure of the Graduate School, and in counseling and advising with the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research in matters of administering the Graduate School;" and

WHEREAS the efficacy of the Graduate Council is directly related to the continuous improvement of Graduate School education; and

WHEREAS with a reported 60.4 percent of non-tenure, non-permanent instructors, the University of Akron has the lowest percentage of tenure professors in Ohio; and

WHEREAS the University does not expect non-tenure, non-permanent instructors to engage in research and scholarly activities; and

WHEREAS a substantial number of non-tenure, non-permanent instructors without engaging in research and scholarly activities have served as Graduate Faculty and have been responsible for teaching graduate courses at the University of Akron; and

WHEREAS a lack of substantial research and scholarly publication by non-tenure, non-permanent Graduate Faculty has a detrimental impact on the overall quality of Graduate Programs; and

WHEREAS equity across disciplinary boundaries is the key to the University of Akron's pursuing inclusive excellence.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Graduate Council:

1. SERVE as advocates for all graduate students at the University of Akron to ensure that the University attend to and be committed to improving the quality rather than quantity of graduate school education.

2. RECOGNIZE the interrelationship between equity and excellence.

3. COLLABORATE with the President, the Senior Vice President and Provost, and the Dean of the Graduate School in establishing a policy initiative that aims at establishing and maintaining equity across disciplinary boundaries by recruiting qualified tenure and permanent graduate faculty for teaching, research, and service.