

The University of Akron
Minutes of the Graduate Faculty
April 18, 2002
Oak Room, Gardner Student Center

Dr. J. Thomas Dukes called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

1. Dr. Rex Ramsier moved to approve the minutes of the Fall 2001 Graduate Faculty meeting as written. Professor Durand Pope seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

Dr. J. Thomas Dukes stated that he is chairing the meeting due to Dr. Newkome being out of town. Dr. Dukes said that he received no report from Dr. Newkome to present to the Graduate Faculty.

2. Dr. J. Thomas Dukes, Vice Chair of Graduate Council, provided a report to the Graduate Faculty. A copy of his report is attached.

Rod Marshall provided a report for Dr. Thomas Gaylord, who was unable to attend the meeting. A copy of his report is attached.

Dr. Robert Kent expressed his concern to Mr. Marshall about unannounced increases in long distance phone charges, dramatic increase in charges for network drops, and the lack of "wired classrooms."

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

Dr. Robert Kent stated that The University Press is doing a great job.

Diane Sotnak, President of Graduate Student Government, was unable to attend the meeting. No report was provided from Graduate Student Government.

3. Dr. Rex Ramsier stated that the Graduate Faculty Membership Committee of Graduate Council has asked departments to examine their current graduate faculty membership criteria and determine if revisions are necessary to keep in line with revised RTP Guidelines and the Scholarship of Teaching.

Dr. James Rogers said that graduate faculty membership criteria is embedded in the Bylaws of the Graduate Faculty and the Bylaws are not being changed.

Dr. Rex Ramsier responded that departments have the ability to allow substitutions for a journal article, book chapter, etc...

4. Old Business

There was no old business for discussion.

5. New Business

Dr. James Rogers expressed his concern that the Bylaws of the Graduate Faculty are not being followed, thus are not useful and should be changed. He stated that a list of attendance should be taken at these meetings as there is never a quorum present, and if these meetings are going to take place they need to be made more useful otherwise there is no point in holding them. Dr. Rogers also expressed a concern that there is no administration present at these meetings.

Dr. Rex Ramsier said that this is a useless meeting if faculty make it a useless meeting, and the administration cannot be blamed for faculty not attending.

Dr. J. Thomas Dukes stated that many times there are other meetings going on at the same time as the graduate faculty meetings, and faculty members' schedules do not allow for them to attend.

Dr. Therese Lueck said that faculty should view the graduate faculty meetings a forum where they can express their thoughts and concerns.

Dr. James Rogers moved to take attendance beginning with the next meeting of the Graduate Faculty in the Fall Semester. Durand Pope seconded this motion. Those graduate faculty members present unanimously approved the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather A. Blake
Graduate School