

University Graduate and Professional Council
2008-2009

Minutes October 14, 2008

Members present: Marietta Bell-Scriber, Nancy Hogan, David Scott, Jeff Hardesty, Olukemi Fadayomi, Lon Green, Ali Abbasabadi, Renee Koski, Nancy Lashaway-Bokina

Previous Business:

In April, the Graduate Assistant policy was to go to the President's Council. Over the summer, a change in the interim VP occurred. In August, I emailed Dan Burcham the Graduate Assistant policy and inquired about its status. To date, I have not received any notice of its approval. Don Flickinger stated he would check on this. Dr. Burcham has addressed the parking and it appears the procedure is to supply names to the Dean of the college who then forwards the names to Public Safety.

New Business:

David Scott called the meeting to order and the first order of business was to elect a chair. The motion was made, seconded, and approved that I chair the committee. The major issue this year will be preparation for the Higher Learning Commission visit. I will contact the task force to get a full copy of the criteria, as I only have #4. We then went through the priorities from 2007 and discussed their importance for 2008-2009. The first issue was a *graduate liaison* (preferably a graduate office). Last year there was talk about appointing someone specifically to work with the graduate programs, but this never materialized. The university's Strategic Planning Committee (SPARC) did include expanding *scholarships* to graduate students. This committee needs to gently push this university commitment. Last year the VP's office discussed possible funds to market the graduate programs. Other universities are taking advantage of this with billboards. *Housing* of graduate students including international students still is an issue. Last year we discussed deferment policies. The main campus now has students pay the first semester, then use the deferment received for the following semester, thus placing the responsibility on the student. Since defaults of payment are lumped together, it cannot be calculated how many deferments ended in default. Another idea was to offer corporations, hospital, and schools *discounted prices* for so many seats. If a company pays for 5 students, a discount would be offered for the 6th student. Mr. Don Flickinger, Assistant VP, then informed us about international interest in graduate programs. They are interested in "ground" programs rather than online so that students can meet the visa requirements. Countries are looking for accredited graduate programs, particularly in business, health, and engineering. Thus, it is expected that there will be an increased interest in development and accreditation of graduate education. One suggestion from last year was to use existing programs to start up new programs that lacked the needed Ph.D.'s. Finally, Form B for Crim 697-Independent Study was discussed and approved. Nursing will be submitting a similar course as well.

The meeting times for this semester are: November 11th and December 9th, both at 11 am in BIS 526. We would also like to set up a meeting with Dr. Burcham, so that time will be forthcoming.

Meeting adjourned: 12:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Hogan, Ph.D.
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School of Criminal Justice