



## FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

### University Graduate and Professional Council Executive Summary 2007

<b>Members:</b>	AH	Marietta Bell-Scriber	OPT	Randy Vance
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At the close of the 2005-2006 academic year, the draft Graduate policy was sent to a Dean's Council sub-committee to work on recommendations. At the beginning of the 2006-2007 academic year, the UGPC received these recommendations and once again made some small revisions to the draft. It was sent back to the Dean's Council. After a few more recommendations and changes, the Graduate policy was approved by the Dean's Council and Academic Affairs on December 5, 2006.

With the passage of the Graduate and Thesis Formatting policy, the Council discussed strategic planning and issues that are of concern. Areas of concern discussed this year included: deferment, academic distinction, Ferris Webpage errors and incomplete links, In Progress grades and Continuing Credits, creation of a student handbook with general graduate policies, marketing strategies, meeting graduate student needs, and a formatting handbook.

These discussions led to a more cohesive plan for the future. By creating a Graduate Website, issues that affect all graduate programs can be addressed. This will become the central information point for existing students and faculty as well as potential students and faculty. After brainstorming, several key areas will be developed and pursued next year through the creation of subcommittees. All the information then will be placed on the webpage. These areas include: 1) Graduate Housing (during terms, breaks, summer hotel); 2) Graduate Marketing and Recruitment (both faculty and students); 3) Graduate Tuition Deferment and tuition discounts; 4) graduate assistants, graduate scholarships and employment; 5) Development of different tracks used by all programs or developing programs or to help current students (tracks to update skills, intensive writing courses, thesis preparation class); 6) Graduate student activities and issues (such as breakfasts, events, babysitting needs, etc.); 7) international student issues (testing, Visas, housing issues, etc), and Graduate Handbooks (faculty and students).

Next year will be a challenging, but exciting year. To accomplish many of these tasks, the UGPC will request funding. Further, most issues involve many layers of bureaucracy and departments (such as UCEL, admissions, marketing, academic affairs, etc.) and will be very time consuming. To ensure that all graduate programs have representation, the Council voted to change the membership of the committee to allow more than one representative from colleges with more than one program. Although it is being tabled by the Senate E-Board this year, I will work with them over the summer so that upcoming meeting agendas include our request.

Other business conducted by the UGPC involved review and approval of several graduate course revisions and additions. These included: Replacement of MMBA 665 with MMBA 740-Global Business; MSCTE Minor Cleanup-Training and Development (EDUC 680, 699); M.Ed. Minor Clean-up-Elementary Education (EDUC 520, 531, 532); MSN-Additional Elective (NURS 630); MSCTE-Research course Revision and Sequencing; (EDUC 511, 661); MSN Minor Cleanup-(NURS 710, 720, 730); MMBA –Additional courses, combining two courses and change in objectives (MMBA 725, MMBA 665 and 620 to 635), and PharmD Entrance Requirements.

Now that Ferris has a Graduate policy, the UGPC is the foundation for developing policies and procedures. Our credibility must become an integral part of the university structure where we actively participate in the planning process. We look forward to the challenge.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Hogan, Ph.D.