

**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING
October 2, 2012 MINUTES
Zarrow Hall, J.J. Rhyne Community Room**

AMENDED

All actions taken by the Graduate Council will have a twenty-one (21) day faculty protest period except for new courses, course changes and petitions which will be considered approved by the Graduate Faculty if no written protest is received in the Graduate College within seven (7) days.

Present: Lee Williams, Janis Paul, John Baur, Sally Beach, Anthony Cricchio, Brian Fiedler, Priscilla Griffith, Phillip Gutierrez, Michael Kent, Robert Lipe, Nina Livesey, Vassilios Sikavitsas, Irvin Wagner, Barry Weaver.

Absent: Dan Cottom, Jennifer Hartsell, Joseph Havlicek, Rosalee Maffitt, James Maner, William Ray, Paul Spicer.

Guests: Waleila (Lydia) Carey, Kevin Farmer, Geary Hobson.

Description of General Business

- The minutes from September 5, 2012 were approved.

Discussion Item

- The “Tools of Research” item was tabled for a later meeting.

FYI Item

- A non-substantive change was made to the Master of Science in Construction Management program, requiring thesis students to continue to enroll in thesis research hours instead of presentation hours during their final semester, in keeping with the Graduate College thesis hour continuous enrollment requirement.
- Dean Williams made brief remarks on the recently-approved Master of Laws (L.L.M.) degree and recent trends in legal education.

Subcommittee Reports

- Dr. Griffith provided the following report on the September Faculty Senate meeting:
 - Sept. 10, 2012 was the first meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 2012-2013 academic year. The agenda is online at <http://www.ou.edu/admin/facsen/agenda.htm> The agenda has links to Faculty Senate membership list; 2011-2012 annual reports; Faculty Senate committees and members; disposition by the administration of Faculty Senate actions for Sept. 2011 to August 2012.
 - The regular meetings of the Faculty Senate for 2012-13 will be held at 3:30 p.m. on the following Mondays in Jacobson Faculty Hall 102: September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10, January 14, February 11, March 11, April 8, and May 6.
 - Reported deaths of retired faculty members John Seaberg (Educational Leadership & Policy Studies) on June 4, Moira Waterbury (Human Relations) on

June 11, Herbert Hengst (Education) on August 20, and William Maehl (History/Liberal Studies and former Faculty Senate Chair) on July 26 (2011).

- The Athletics Department is offering a faculty and staff All Sports Package for 2012-13 for \$40. The pass entitles a faculty or staff member and one guest general admission to all home athletic events (not including football or basketball) and will be loaded onto the employee's ID card. The employee must hold a continuous appointment of .50 FTE or more and be benefits-eligible. The pass will not count toward season ticket or attendance priority points. For more information, contact the Athletics Ticket Office at 325-2424 or outickets@ou.edu.
 - President Boren was scheduled to give the state of the University address, but he was unable to be at the meeting due to attending a funeral.
 - Senate Chair's Report: 1. The Senate Executive Committee elected Georgia Kosmopoulou (Economics) as parliamentarian of the Faculty Senate. 2. Provost Mergler met with the Senate Executive Committee and raised two issues she is considering: faculty access journals and expensive text books. 3. IT will meet with Faculty Senate to address handling of faculty confidential/sensitive data. 4. President Boren met with Senate Executive Committee and raised issues he is considering: climate at the state legislature, salary compression, faculty work load policy, curriculum committee to review OU curriculum, a digital advisory committee. 5. Faculty Senate issues for 2012-2013: raises for faculty, concealed weapons on campus, OU's "face" at state legislature, cost of education and faculty and administrator's salaries.
- Dr. Lipe provided the following report on the September OUHSC Graduate Council meeting:
 - The meeting was chaired by Eric Howard. The following issues were discussed:
 - Approved their August minutes
 - Curriculum Review – approved the revision of one course and dropping another course.
 - Required syllabus format – discussed the possibility of developing a standard format for graduate course syllabi. I believe the main concern was that existing syllabi might not contain sufficient details on how student performance would be assessed. Council decided to wait for a meeting with the Dean present to discuss further.
 - Voted on conferring graduate faculty status to applicants, something the Norman Campus Graduate Council does not do.
 - Voted on a revision to the Graduate Faculty Application form. The goal was to produce a form that collected the key information that would be necessary to decide what (if any) level of grad faculty status should be granted to an applicant while discouraging submission of bunches of irrelevant info
 - Dr. Phillips discussed the academic appeal that the Norman Campus Graduate Council heard in September. She was impressed with the process. In particular, she emphasized how our approach was centered on academics rather than fear of legal repercussions. She offered that HSC might move in a similar way to reduce the impact of legal counsel(s). A spirited discussion followed. In the end, the Council was not sure what if any power it had to affect the appeals process, but further discussion seemed warranted.
 - Graduate Student Association: planning for events is progressing well. Council members praised the current student association members for their hard work. In

both this meeting and the prior meetings I attended, the council clearly displayed an interest in student association activities. I do not recall anything similar at Norman Campus. I wonder why the interactions between the two Graduate Councils and their student associations are so different.

- Sexual Misconduct Training: apparently graduate students who are on assistantships at HSC have to complete two different “Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Awareness” on-line courses/tests, one for staff and one for students. Council members viewed this as tedious, but no easy alternative was suggested.

Course Changes

The following course changes and proposals have been unanimously approved by the Graduate Council and will be forwarded to the Academic Programs Council for further approval after the seven (7) day protest period. Only brief information regarding approved changes follows; however, original course change proposals will be on file in the Graduate College through the seven-day protest period if you have questions or concerns about any of the following. Please contact the Graduate Council Secretary, Stephanie Powers, at 325-4706 if you wish to review any of these materials.

GEOG 5143. Course addition.

GEOG 5243. Course addition.

GEOG 5253. Course addition.

GEOG 5433. Course addition.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:33 PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be November 7, 2012.

DISTRIBUTION DATE: October 3, 2012