

**GRADUATE POLICY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
January 27, 2014**

The following members were present: Lee Stepina, Business, Chair; Nancy Marcus, Dean, The Graduate School; Sudhir Aggarwal, Computer Science; Peter Hoefflich, Physics; William Fredrickson, Music; Fred Huffer, Statistics; Elwood Carlson, Sociology; Karla Schmitt, Nursing; Linda DeBrunner, Engineering; Jamila Horabin, Biomedical Science; Patricia Born, Business; Anne Barrett, Sociology; Steven Webber, Interior Design; Brian Gaber, Film/Music; Jasminka Ilich-Ernst, Human Sciences; Stanley Gontarski, Arts and Sciences

The following members were absent: Bong-Soo Lee, Business; Kaifeng Yang, Social Science; Sherry Southerland, Education; Diana Rice, Education; Nancy Everhart, Communication and Information; Ron Doel, Arts and Sciences; Tomi Gomory, Social Work; Gary Burnett, Communication & Information

Also present: Colin Creasy, The Graduate School; Jennifer Buchanan, Faculty Development and Advancement; Judy Devine, The Graduate School; Myra Hurt, Medicine

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 P.M by Lee Stepina, Chair.

Meeting Time Change - Dr. Stepina explained that, due to a scheduling conflict, he would like to move GPC meetings to Tuesdays starting February 11th. Because there was not a consensus among members present and to allow absent members to weigh in on the decision, Dr. Stepina suggested that an online poll be created for determining member's availability.

Previous Meeting Minutes – The previous meeting minutes were accepted without changes.

Proposal to Explore: MS in Physician Assistant Studies – Dr. Hurt provided a brief description of the Physician Assistant career, expected pay range, and explained the course of study (first year coursework, second year clinical training.) Dr. Hurt added that the start date for the program (assuming it is ultimately approved by the university) was still far off in the future as the earliest the program would be able to gain accreditation is Fall 2017 and it would not commence until accreditation was received.

Dr. Aggarwal asked how similar programs operate. Dr. Hurt explained that the bulk of US programs are at the Masters level but are not typically associated with Medical schools. There are no other colleges in the state with a similar program, but she did note that Miami-Dade offers an Associate's degree.

Dr. DeBrunner asked about funding. Dr. Hurt explained that the program would not be asking the University for money but added that they had asked the Provost for tuition return.

Dr. Huffer asked about specialization. Dr. Hurt explained that students would be encouraged to try out sub-specialties that could include working for hospitals or private practices.

Dr. Aggarwal asked about admission requirements. Dr. Hurt explained that they were not yet set, would not require the MCAT, but would be sufficiently high.

Dr. Hoflich asked about the potential applicant pool. Dr. Hurt explained that they expected over a thousand candidates to apply for the first twenty spots.

Dr. Schmitt asked about tuition cost. Dr. Hunt explained that they expected tuition to be around \$25,000 per year.

Dr. Webber asked if PAs were required to gain certification in Florida. Dr. Hurt explained that they did require certification, however the course of study would be sufficient to prepare students for this.

It was moved by Dr. DeBrunner and seconded by Dr. Aggarwal to accept the proposal to explore

Passed

Revised GFS Handbook Section – Dean Marcus explained how she went about cleaning up and clarifying the distinct levels of graduate status within the Faculty Handbook. She added that the policy in the handbook is now in line with the current CBA.

Dr. Horabin asked if College of Medicine instructors will have an exception clause made, similar to that of Law professors. Dean Marcus explained that this clause would be needed but suggested it be added at a later date.

It was moved by Dr. Schmitt and seconded by Dr. Fredrickson to accept the policy

Passed

Dual Degree Policy – Dr. Stepina presented Dr. Carlson and Dr. Schmitt’s revised language:

Under certain special circumstances it is possible for a student to work on two degrees in two different departments at the same time. Students intending to do this must be accepted by both departments. A Dual Enrollment Request Form showing endorsement by both department heads and dean(s), as appropriate, must be sent to the Dean of The Graduate School for approval. Once approved, the Office of the University Registrar will be notified of the dual registration.

Note: Initial admission to a graduate program at Florida State University must be to one program only. After the first semester, the student may apply and be accepted to the second degree program desired.

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Dual Degrees are two degrees earned simultaneously when a student is accepted by both a department/programs and is approved by appropriate deans and the Dean of The Graduate School. A student must be admitted to one academic program initially, and after the first semester, may apply and be accepted to the second degree program. There is no formal relationship between the two degree program requirements in a dual degree situation.

To ensure that students entering a second graduate degree program receive timely and effective advisement on a program of study approved by the second department, admission to the second graduate degree program must be approved before the student completes more than twelve credit-hours of coursework that are counted in that department toward the second graduate degree.

Dr. Stepina asked if exceptions, such as a student who had 15 credits, be made. Dean Marcus explained that this could happen if proper justification were made.

Dr. Carlson argued that acquiring 12 credits outside of the student's home program would take a significant amount of time. Dr. Huffer explained that this could happen quickly if the student was encouraged to pursue a minor. Dr. Schmitt argued that when a minor is encouraged, advisement regarding dual degree opportunities should also be discussed.

Dr. Huffer suggested this revised policy wording:

Under certain special circumstances it is possible for a student to work on two degrees in two different departments at the same time. Students intending to do this must be accepted by both departments. A Dual Enrollment Request Form showing endorsement by both department heads and dean(s), as appropriate, must be sent to the Dean of The Graduate School for approval. Once approved, the Office of the University Registrar will be notified of the dual registration.

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To ensure that students entering a second graduate degree program receive timely and effective advisement on a program of study approved by the second department, admission to the second graduate degree program must be approved before the student completes more than twelve credit-hours of coursework that are counted in that department toward the second graduate degree.

This limit of 12 credits earned only applies to students admitted to their first graduate degree program in the Fall 2014 semester and onwards.

It was moved by Dr. DeBrunner and seconded by Dr. Schmitt to accept the policy.

PASSED

Dr. Stepina mentioned that next meeting may include proposals from Law, Educational Leadership, and Nursing/Panama City.

With no new business to be presented, Dr. Stepina adjourned the meeting at 5:00 P.M.