GRADUATE POLICY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 18, 2002

MEMBERS PRESENT:
George Bates, Chair, Biology
Steve Edwards, Dean of Faculties
Elizabeth Platt, Education
Dianne Speake, Nursing
Kathleen Erndl, Religion
Bruce Bullington, Criminology
Dianne Harrison, Graduate Studies
Wendy Crock, Social Work
Jim Orcutt, Sociology
Jack Fiorito, Business
Fran Berry, Public Admin.
Emily Haymes, Human Sciences
Andrew Payer, Medicine
Chuck Zhang, Engineering
Shelia Herring, Grad. Student Rep.
Mary Karen Dahl, Theatre
Lee Stepina, Business
Patricia Young, Dance
Bettye Ann Case, Math

ALSO PRESENT:
Donna Wieckowicz
Judy Devine
Althea Jenkins
Charles Imwold
Bruce Thyer
Lee Jones

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 P.M. Mr. Bates presented for approval the 9/23/02 minutes. There being no objection the minutes were approved as distributed.

Mr. Bates then called upon Ms. Emily Haymes to present the report on the doctoral review of Physical Education. Ms. Haymes reported that the Physical Education department is a good quality program that is managed adequately with an excellent record of placing their students in teaching and administrative positions. She went on to say that the review committee expressed concern regarding the program's admission standards and the large number of admission exceptions in Physical Education. Ms. Haymes added that Sport Administration has raised the GRE requirement last fall in order to achieve selectivity in admissions. The review committee felt that the department should actively recruit two faculty members, at the senior and junior levels, to help improve the grant activity and teaching requirements of the department.

The floor was opened to questions. Questions concerning admission standards and scholarly activity of the faculty were raised. Mr. Charles Imwold, chair of the department, responded by saying that the department has taken steps to lower the number of exceptions by raising the
department's GRE requirement, along with each entering graduate student being assigned a sponsoring faculty member before the student is accepted. Mr. Imwold agreed on the need to increase grant and research activity. At this point the Sport Administration junior level faculty lack national recognition, but offer a lot of promise. He would like to recruit a senior level faculty member that could bring the department up to its potential. He added that Sport Administration has few grant opportunities since it is a relatively new area of study.

Recommendations:

It was **moved** by Mr. Orcutt and **seconded** by Mr. Stepina to accept recommendation 1, which reads:

It is recommended that the doctoral program in Physical Education be continued.

Passed

It was **moved** by Ms. Platt and **seconded** by Mr. Stepina to accept recommendation 2, which reads:

It is recommended that doctoral directive status for Professors Clement, Imwold, Jackson, Kent, Lynn, and Ratcliffe be continued

Passed

Prior to moving recommendation 3 the GPC discussed at length the connection between this recommendation and recommendation 5 concerning the recruiting of two new faculty positions. It was felt that a senior level position was imperative, but that it should be left up to the discretion of the department. Mr. Imwold added that they advertised for an associate professor in Sport Administration, but were unsuccessful since this is such a new field of study and are now re-advertising for either an assistant or associate professor. After a brief discussion the committee felt that it would benefit the department to combine recommendations 3 and 5.

It was **moved** by Ms. Crook and **seconded** by Mr. Orcutt to accept recommendation 3 as reworded:

In keeping with the priorities and mission of the department, college and university it is recommended that the department recruit two additional faculty members, at least one of whom be at an advanced level with an established sponsored research record.

Passed

It was **moved** by Mr. Orcutt and **seconded** by Ms. Crook to accept recommendation 4 as reworded:
It is recommended that the doctoral program should reassess the GRE minimum for admission to doctoral study in the physical education major and reduce exceptions to admission requirements.

Passed

The GPC requested clarification of recommendations 6 and 7 as they seem to relate to each other. The intent of the review committee was to have the department initiate a plan on recruiting, how faculty assignments are made, and to offer some release time from teaching to allow faculty to do research, and to improve the offerings of courses at the doctoral level. After a brief discussion the GPC felt that one recommendation addressing both issues would be more beneficial to the department.

It was moved by Ms. Berry and seconded by Mr. Fiorito to accept recommendation 6 as reworded:

It is recommended that the department reassess its priorities and work to find resources to enhance its research activity and associated graduate training.

Passed

Mr. Bates then called upon Mr. Bruce Thyer, Dean of the School of Social Work, to present a proposal allowing Ph.D. students to teach master's students enrolled in professional master's programs that was distributed to the GPC in advance. Mr. Thyer reported that students admitted to the Ph.D. program in Social Work have already earned the MSW degree, and in most cases have many years of post-MSW practice experience. The school often uses experienced MSW-practitioners in the community to teach in their MSW program, but if these same individuals enroll in the Ph.D. program, they are no longer allowed to teach the same MSW courses they had taught for years. He added that SACS considers the MSW to be the terminal degree in the field of Social Work. Mr. Thyer researched several universities and learned that they do permit social work doctoral students to teach masters students. Some of these universities are Bryn Mawr, SUNY-Buffalo, Tulane University and so forth. He concluded by requesting the GPC to reconsider this policy for the School of Social Work, if not university-wide.

The GPC felt his request had merit, and that these individuals seemed to have the experience to teach the MSW courses. Mr. Thyer added that it didn't make sense for experienced masters-level practitioners, who enter their doctoral program being prevented from teaching, when equally qualified masters-practitioners are hired as visiting faculty and given masters-level teaching assignments. The GPC agreed, but felt that this should not be a blanket approval and further felt that some provision about years of experience and supervision be included in the recommendation. After further
discussion the following motion was *moved* by Mr. Stepina and *seconded* by Mr. Orcutt.

To allow the School of Social Work doctoral students with an MSW degree, two years of work experience, and appropriate supervision to teach Masters level students at the discretion of the dean.

**Passed** 10 yea, 3 nay, and 2 abstentions.

Mr. Bates informed the committee that this recommendation will be forwarded to the Faculty Senate for final approval.

Mr. Bates then presented for discussion the proposed new degree guidelines that were distributed to the GPC in advance. Mr. Bates advised the GPC that Ms. Dianne Harrison, Dean of Graduate Studies, worked on a revision that would simplify the process and requested input from the committee. He explained that the guidelines have three changes - the GPC will now have input at the exploration stage, an added evaluation and sunset stage, and adding that the Undergraduate Policy Committee review undergraduate degree proposals. The GPC felt that this revision was less complicated and expressed approval. Mr. Bates advised that this revision will now be presented to the Council of Deans, Undergraduate Policy Committee, and Faculty Senate Steering Committee for further review.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 P.M.