

**GRADUATE POLICY COMMITTEE
ACTIONS
MARCH 3, 1986**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Steve Rollin
Lawrence George
Jayne Standley
Russell Johnsen
Jaakko Hintikka
Steve Edwards
Bonnie Greenwood
A. Krothapalli
Al Imershine
Steve Celec
Bill Haas
Steve Kleese
Dianne Montgomery
Bill Marzluff
Marie Cowart
Stuart Baker

MEMBERS ABSENT

John Albright
Shirley Aaron
Joe McElrath
Tom Blomberg
Bill Hillison
Patricia Rose

ALSO PRESENT

C.J.B. MacMillan
William A. Shrode
Richard Hornby
Tommie Stewart
Max Carraway
Bruce Bickley
Gil Lazier
Joyce Howard
Hilbert Levitz
(for R. Gilmer)
Donna Wieckowicz

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM. Dr. Rollin began the meeting by calling upon Dr. Jayne Standley to give her subcommittee's report on proposed graduate policy changes. Dr. Standley began by introducing the subcommittee members, she further stated that Joyce Howard was very helpful in compiling the data that was used for this report. Dr. Standley informed the committee that this report was prompted by memoranda from Tom McCaleb and Steve Edwards requesting a general review from the GPC regarding the loss of funded hours. The thesis/dissertation enrollments have been falling and for the past several years have been below the funding corridor, which affects the amount of funding the University receives from the Board of Regents. The subcommittee report proposes an increase in required thesis/dissertation hours as one way to help this problem. Dr. Standley then presented the subcommittee's report to the GPC for discussion.

The committee in reviewing the report spoke of their concerns; the higher cost to the graduate student; increased hours to 24 may be too high, perhaps a lower figure of 18 hours would be more realistic; using University facilities and not registered, or counted in the FTE hours. After a brief discussion the committee amended the report to read as follows:

1. The minimum number of dissertation hours for completion of a doctoral degree shall be 24 semester hours.

Required Action:

Change catalog copy on page 78 under Dissertation, paragraph 3. All departments would change their respective catalog copy or departmental graduate handbook in accordance.

2. The minimum number of thesis hours for completion of a master's degree shall be six hours. The minimum number of hours for a thesis-type master's degree program shall be 33 semester hours and for a course-type master's degree shall be 35 semester hours.

Required Action:

Change catalog copy on page 74 under Specific Requirements.

3. Satisfactory completion of a Preliminary Examination shall be required for admission to candidacy for the doctoral degree. No student may register for dissertation or doctoral treatise hours prior to the end of the term in which the Preliminary Examination was passed. An Admission to Candidacy Form must be completed and on file in the Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies prior to registration for dissertation/treatise hours. After completion of the Admission to Candidacy process, the Student may retroactively add dissertation hours for that semester in which the Preliminary Exam was completed.

Required Action:

1. Add to catalog copy on page 77 under Preliminary Examination.
2. Change catalog copy on page 78 under Admission to Candidacy by substituting above for the current statement: "A student who has passed the Preliminary Examination is considered a candidate for the doctoral degree."
3. Admissions to Candidacy form.
4. The student who has been admitted to candidacy must register for dissertation credits each term in which a substantial amount of work is being done on the dissertation. A student who has completed the required coursework and continues to use campus facilities and/or receive faculty supervision but who has not made a final dissertation submission shall register for a minimum of two hours of dissertation per term. The exact number of hours shall be determined by the major professor based on the proportion of faculty/staff time, facilities, and other resources needed to support the student.

Required Action:

Change catalog copy on page 78 under dissertation.

5. The student must register for thesis credits each term in which a substantial amount of work is being done on the thesis. A student who has completed the required coursework and continues to use campus facilities and/or receive faculty supervision but who has not made a final thesis submission shall register for a minimum of two hours of thesis per term. The exact number of hours shall be determined by the major professor based on the proportion of faculty/staff time, facilities, and other resources needed to support the student.

Required Action:

Add to catalog copy on page 76 under Thesis.

6. Registration shall be required in the final term in which a degree is granted and shall consist of a minimum of one semester hour of thesis/dissertation/treatise credit even if the student has completed the requirements for the degree in previous semesters. This is to reimburse the university for the administrative costs of manuscript clearance and final degree clearance procedures.

Required Action:

1. Substitute above for first two sentences of catalog copy on page 73 under **Registration for Final Term.**
2. Change catalog copy on page 71 under **Registration** by adding the following: If in the final semester of degree completion the student is registered for "examination only," the student will be charged an examination-only fee equivalent to the one hour minimum for registered graduate credit required in the final term.

The committee also voted to send the following recommendations to the Curriculum Committee:

- 1) That the graduate DIS become S/U or letter grade at the option of the department.
- 2) That a new course be developed called Preliminary Exam Preparation and be for variable credit (0-12 hrs.) and repeatable.

It was **moved** and **seconded** to accept the report as amended. The **motion carried.**

The proposed graduate policy changes, as amended, will be presented to the Faculty Senate for their approval.

Dr. Rollin then called upon Dr. C.J.B. MacMillan to give his subcommittee's report on the Theatre Ph.D. program review, which had been distributed to committee members in advance. Dr. MacMillan reported that in general, the administrative structure of the School of Theatre works adequately. The graduate students have good qualifications and work hard. He further stated that FSU provides the only Ph.D. program in Theatre in Florida, and is one of only three programs in the Southeast. Dr. MacMillan further reported that the School of Theatre does not plan to include any immediate changes in the structure or emphasis of its doctoral program. The school feels the field of Academic Theatre is presently in flux, making it difficult to determine what sort of emphasis to put on these two degree programs (MFA and Ph.D.), but it was felt that the school is placing more emphasis on the MFA program. Dr. MacMillan went on to say that his subcommittee believes that there is an opportunity for the School of Theatre to take a strong position of leadership and not a wait-and-see attitude. He concluded his report by saying the program should be continued, but procedures should be found for strengthening the Ph.D. program.

It was **moved** and **seconded** to accept the report.

Dr. Rollin requested that the committee begin by reviewing each recommendation separately.

Recommendation D (1) reads as follows:

The Review Committee recommends that the School of Theatre make a hard choice about the Ph.D. program within the next two years. It recommends that the Ph.D. program be continued, but only if it is given appropriate emphasis vis-a-vis the MFA degree.

After a lengthy discussion the committee determined that a judgement couldn't be made of the MFA program without first reviewing it. Dr. Dianne Montgomery recommended that part of the last sentence beginning with the word **but** be deleted and that the committee then proceed to recommendation 2 (3). Dr. Marie Cowart **seconded** the motion.

After a further discussion it was moved that recommendation D (1) be altered to read as follows:

That the Ph.D. program in Theatre be continued and more strongly supported by the School of Theatre.

Dr. Jayne Standley **seconded** the motion. The motion carried.

It was **moved** and **seconded** that recommendation 2 (1) remain as written. It reads as follows:

That the School of Theatre review the doctoral directive status of Professors Fallon, Lazier, and Karioth, and that the doctoral status of Professors Baker, Degen, Hornby, and Stowell be continued.

The motion carried.

After a brief discussion the committee agreed that when faculty leave and do not return, for whatever reason, it does place a hardship on the program and moved that recommendation 2 (2) be altered as follows:

That the School of Theatre commit itself to maintaining a sufficient range of faculty specialties, in case one or more of the current doctoral directive faculty members leave Florida State University.

The motion was seconded and passed.

The committee discussed the heavy teaching loads of the faculty. Jaakko Hintikka suggested that a goal be established and recommended that recommendation 2 (3) be altered to read as follows:

That doctoral directive faculty members teach at least one course per semester at the graduate level, and a goal be established of no more than a total of two courses per semester. Research assignments should be heavier.

It was moved and seconded. The motion carried.

It was **moved** and **seconded** to accept recommendation 2 (4) as written. It reads as follows:

That the School of Theatre explore ways to improve communication and cooperation between the graduate programs leading to the MA, MFA, and PhD. This might - but need not - include having all graduate degree programs administered by one person.

The motion carried.

The committee agreed to delete recommendation 2 (5) as the review of the MFA program will be done as a normal procedure of the GPC review process.

Dr. Jaakko Hintikka stated that, as mentioned in previous doctoral reviews this year, graduate student support is not sufficient. Dr. Gil Lazier said that recommendation 2 (6), as written, is totally unrealistic with the present funding. After a brief discussion the committee **moved** that (a) of recommendation 2 (6) be altered to read as follows:

a. That the Ph.D. program move toward providing sufficient support for 9-12 Ph.D. students with as much support as possible.

Recommendations (b-e) of 2 (6) remain as written, which reads as follows:

b. Make stipends for these assistantships competitive with other Theatre Ph.D. programs nationally. (FSU grants between \$3200 and \$4800 for the academic year's teaching assistantships.)

c. Make commitments for these funds no later than March 1, for the following academic year.

d. Review graduate assistants' duties to make sure that there is consistency among the students' assignments. (Graduate assistants should not be assigned clerical duties on top of teaching duties, nor should fellowship holders be assigned such duties.)

e. Give doctoral students on assistantships varied teaching assignments during their careers here, not simply assign them to teach the same elementary course each term.

It was **moved** and **seconded**. The **motion carried**.

Dr. Bill Marzluff moved that recommendations 2 (7), (8), (9), and (10) be combined. It was **moved** and **seconded**. Recommendation 2 (7) now reads as follows:

That, with regard to student records, the School of Theatre take the following actions:

- a. Keep all records of the program more accurately.
- b. Centralize all record keeping in a single location.
- c. Provide more space for the storage of such records.
- d. Keep alumni records more fully.

That, with regard to student programs, the School of Theatre take the following actions:

- a. Assign supervisory committees early in each student's program.
- b. Complete a program of studies for each student, early in the program.
- c. Consider the possibility of an early diagnostic examination for each student.
- d. Insure that preliminary examinations are passed and the grade recorded with the registra before dissertation hours are assigned.

That current publicized standards be carefully followed in future admissions procedures.

That more adequate carrel space be provided for graduate students, especially for those with teaching duties, but also for those without.

The **motion carried.**

The committee felt that since the MacArthur collection is no longer housed on the FSU campus that recommendation (a) of 2 (11) be deleted, and that (b) now becomes (a). Recommendation (now 2 (8)) reads as follows:

That, with regard to library holdings, the following action be taken:

(a) Devote an effort to improving the Theatre collection in the University Library.

The committee **moved** that recommendation 2 (12) (now recommendation 2 (9)) remain as written. It reads as follows:

That the School of Theatre explore ways of providing more clerical and staff support for faculty members.

The **motion was seconded and carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM.