

**GRADUATE POLICY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
January 12, 2009**

**The following members were present:** David Johnson, English, Chair; Nancy Marcus, Dean, Graduate Studies; Sudhir Aggarwal, Computer Science; Ulla Bunz, Communication; Bill Fredrickson, Music; Kathleen Erndl, Religion; Marc Gertz, Criminology; Stanley Gontarski, English; Jim Hinterlong, Social Work; David MacPherson, Economics; Victor Mesev, Social Sciences; Ron Mullis, Human Sciences; Colleen Muscha, Theatre; Randy Rill, Medicine; Dianne Speake, Nursing; Molly Wasko, Business

**The following members were absent – alternatives present are listed in parentheses:** Valliere Richard Auzenne, Film; Gary Burnett, Information; Flip Froelich, Oceanography; Ithel Jones, Teacher Education; Susan Lynn, Education; Andy Mauk, Education; (Dan Markel), Law; Rodney Roberts, Engineering; Lee Stepina, Business; Jason Fishbein, Graduate Student Representative, Congress of Graduate Students

**Also present:** Judy Devine, Associate Dean, Office of Graduate Studies; Monica Esquibel, Graduate Studies; Joseph McElrath, Academic Affairs

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 P.M. **A quorum was present.**

Dr. Johnson turned the floor over to Joseph McElrath, a representative from student affairs who is in charge of accreditation. Dr. McElrath passed out documents pertaining to faculty status according to SACS. The first handout provided credential guidelines for qualifying faculty to teach at Florida State University. The second was an excerpt from SACS, Commission on Colleges, *Principles of Accreditation* (2008) concerning graduate faculty. Dr. McElrath informed the GPC that every five years the university has to do an interim report and every ten years a complete report. Dr. Johnson suggested that this document be sent to the units as it would be useful while they are thinking about establishing their GFS criteria.

The **11-10-08, 11-17-08, and 11-24-08 minutes** were approved by the committee without any changes.

**Outside Committee Member and number of members on Doctoral Supervisory Committees – Revisited** – Dr. Johnson explained that towards the end of last semester the GPC passed a policy concerning the role of the outside committee member and number of members on a doctoral supervisory committee. Suggested changes for the Faculty Handbook were submitted to the Faculty Senate Steering committee. Dr. Johnson explained that, per the request of the Steering Committee, minor edits needed to be made to the original document.

In paragraph 1, changes are to be made to reflect current practices pertaining to the selection of the major professor. Department chairs approve the major professor rather than make the appointments independently. In paragraph 2, the Faculty Senate suggested expanded language on the supervisory committee to recognize that the student needs to be evaluated annually prior to the selection of a major professor. In paragraph 3, the Steering Committee felt that requiring the university representative to verify that reviews and programs of studies have been completed was too onerous a task and that this responsibility is that of the Graduate Director.

**It was moved by Ron Mullis and seconded by Jim Hinterlong to approve the edits.**

**Passed**

**With no new business to be presented, Dr. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 4:50 P.M.**