

GRADUATE POLICY COMIVCITTEE
MINUTES
March 31, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT:

George Bates, Chair, Biology
Dianne Speake, Nursing
Wendy Crook, Social Work
Tom Hart, Info. Studies
Bruce Bullington, Criminology
Elizabeth Platt, Education
Jim Orcutt, Social Sci.
David Pargman, Education
Dianne Harrison, Graduate Studies
Steve Edwards, Dean of Faculties
Andrew Payer, Medicine
Bettye Anne Case, Math
Fran Berry, Public Administration
David Johnson, English
Mary Karen Dahl, Theatre

ALSO PRESENT:

Donna Wieckowicz
Judy Devine
Ruth Feiock
Anne Rowe
David Stelle
Alma Littles
Richard Kunkel
Vivian Fueyo
Kristen Hagen
Myra Hurt
Rick Wagner
Jan Flake

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 a.m. Mr. Bates called upon Ms. Hagen to present the International Student Center Proposal. Ms. Hagen informed the GPC that this proposal is in response to the new Department of Homeland Security procedures for reporting enrollment of F-1 and J-1 international students. She went on to say that the federally-mandated Student Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) requires campuses to report international student enrollment each semester through the Student Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS), a web-based tracking system. This requires scrutiny of each student's enrollment, each semester. Students supported by an assistantship or fellowship typically have full-time enrollment. However, many non-supported international graduate students have maintained an enrollment of 9 hours/semester, despite the university's full-time registration requirement of 12 hours. On an individual basis, academic departments would confirm that the enrollment in 9 hours was an appropriate, "full course of study," for the specific international student. The 9 hour enrollment did not prevent international students from making normal progress towards completion of the degree, an obligation of their immigration status. This flexible verification procedure was sufficient when the International Center did not have to provide semester-by-semester reporting of each student's enrollment. In order to simplify their reporting to SEVIS Ms. Hagen requested the GPC consider graduate student enrollment in at least nine (9) credit hours per semester constitutes full-time registration for purposes of satisfying federal reporting requirements for F-1 and J-1 international students. This definition of enrollment for federal reporting purposes does not alter enrollment requirements set by Colleges,

departments, or other special programs for their academic or program purposes.

It was **moved** by Ms. Berry to approve Graduate student enrollment in at least nine (9) credit hours per semester constitutes full-time registration for purposes of satisfying federal reporting requirements for F-1 and J-1 international students. This definition of enrollment for federal reporting purposes does not alter enrollment requirements set by Colleges, departments, or other special programs for their academic or program purposes.

The motion was **seconded** by Mr. Johnson and **passed**.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.