

#175

GRADUATE POLICY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
APRIL 10, 1989

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jayne Standley, Chair
Ed Megargee
Steve Klees
Patricia Rose
Ken Christie
Natholyn Harris
Phyllis Van Orden
Delos DeTar
Steve Celec
Russell H. Johnsen
Elaine McManus
Dianne Montgomery

ALSO PRESENT:

Donna Wieckowicz
David Gruender
Duane Meeter
Werner Baum
Michael Rashotte
Tom McCaleb
Joyce Howard

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 P.M. Ms. Standley called upon Mr. Gruender to present the two-year follow-up report of the doctoral program in Psychology.

Mr. Gruender reported that the subcommittee carefully reviewed the recommendations of the 1987 ad hoc committee and found that the Psychology program has complied with each. He further stated that the problem regarding the quality of dissertations has been improved over the last two years.

The floor was opened to questions. Mr. Klees requested clarification on the meaning of a "600 paper." Mr. Gruender replied by saying that a student wrote a "600 paper" in lieu of taking the comprehensive exam. Mr. Megargee wanted more information regarding the quality of dissertations. Mr. Gruender responded by saying that the subcommittee reviewed 18 dissertations defended between 1986 and 1988, plus reviewing another 18 dissertations from the earlier five year period, and found that within the last two years the quality of dissertations had improved.

Mr. Johnsen informed the GPC that Mr. Steve Edwards had requested, that in his absence, a memorandum concerning the assistant in clinical psychology be read (addendum 1). Mr. Gruender stated that the subcommittee perceived a problem in this area concerning a faculty member with the program and before future problems arose suggested that the issue be revisited and resolved. Mr. Baum, Dean of Arts and Sciences, added that at no time has there been an infringement on the academic freedom of this individual who was offered a faculty appointment, but declined the position to remain in his present classification.

There being no further questions Ms. Standley called upon the GPC to consider the acceptance of the two-year follow-up report as submitted. It was so moved by Mr. DeTar and passed.

Ms. Standley then announced to the committee that Faculty Senate President Leo Sandon requested that the GPC review the 12 hour

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course load requirement for graduate assistants holding stipends. Since there have been many complaints that this is a pedagogically poor practice. It was also reported that in a recent meeting with the Board of Regents, Mr. Sandon was informed that the BOR would fund only 9 hours, which is the SUS average during the academic year and 6 hours during the summer. Ms. Standley presented for consideration the following recommendation:

Effective Fall '89 the minimum course load requirement for graduate students holding stipends of 1/4 time or greater will be 9 hours for each of the three semester, fall, spring and summer.

The above recommendation was moved by Mr. DeTar and seconded by Mr. Christie.

Ms. Standley called upon Mr. Tom McCaleb, associate vice president for academic affairs, to address the financial impact of this issue for the GPC. Mr. McCaleb reported that last year's allotted waivers covered only half the required funding, which left FSU with a \$1.2 million shortfall. He stated that the change in the residency laws made it more difficult for out-of-state students to declare in-state residency, which resulted in a third more students being classified as out-of-state. He continued by saying that the administration helped to cover the shortage by withholding dollars that would normally have gone to the schools and colleges. Mr. McCaleb added that effective Fall '89 the administration will not cover the cost, but will distribute funds to the schools/colleges to use as they deem necessary. He suggested that if the required course load was changed to 9, 9, and 9 hours, effective this fall there would be no detrimental financial impact. He reported being pedagogically in favor of the change.

Ms. Standley thanked Mr. McCaleb and opened the floor to discussion. Mr. Johnsen was in favor of the change and informed the committee that the BOR is not sympathetic to FSU's funding problem because FSU is more than 2 credit hours higher on the average than the other universities in the SUS. Mr. Klees felt that lowering the required hours to 9 would hurt students by requiring more time to complete their graduate work, and most likely graduate students would not be in favor of this reduction in hours. Mr. Christie, the GPC graduate student representative, disagreed and said that the 12 hour requirement is too much for graduate students who hold appointments, and that the majority would support the change. Mr. Celec said that the College of Business has a very structured program of requiring 15 hours at the master's level and 12 hours at the doctoral level and lowering the required hours would be a major problem for Business. Mr. Celec felt that it would be more realistic to change the dissertation hours only to 9, 9, and 6. After a brief discussion Ms. Standley called for a vote on the recommendation. With a vote of 10 yes and 2 no the recommendation passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:50 P.M.