

Graduate Council Minutes
November 9, 2006

The Graduate Council met in Bond Hall room 295 on this date. Dr. Jones chaired this meeting. Members in attendance were Dr. David Allen, Dr. Jennifer Altieri, Dr. Mark Bebensee, Dr. Kathy Brown, Dr. John Carter, Dr. Sheila Foster, Dr. Kathy Grenier, Dr. Will Johnson, Dr. Kerry Lassiter, Dr. Kathy Richardson-Jones, Dr. Paul Rosenblum, Dr. Bob Steed, and Dr. George Williams. Ex-officio members in attendance were Dr. Tom Thompson, Ms. Marcia Bonica and Ms. Katie Gibson. Dr. Carl Betterton and Dr. Keith Plemmons also attended.

The minutes of October 19, 2006 were approved without objection.

Dr. Plemmons presented the first agenda item regarding the addition of a Special Topics Class in the TPM program. All comments from previous meetings were considered and Dr. Plemmons presented the Graduate Council with an edited course description for the class. Dr. Carter moved that the Special Topics Class be added and the motion passed without objection.

Dr. Jones presented the second agenda item regarding the establishment of an exemption policy for graduate school entrance exams. All comments from previous meetings were considered and Dr. Jones presented an edited proposal to the Council. Dr. Jones explained the changes that had been made. This policy is being proposed so that students with graduate degrees may be exempted applications from admissions testing by an academic dean. Dr. Williams stressed the importance of applying for waiver to academic deans as in some programs, entrance exams are required and of importance to the program. Dr. Rosenblum motioned for the acceptance of the exemption policy for applicants with higher education degrees and the motion was passed without objection.

Dr. Bebensee presented the third agenda item regarding the revised MBA curriculum. Based on input from students and professors, the MBA program is eliminating the 1.5-hour courses. The four 1.5-hour courses that will be eliminated are BADM 603, BADM 605, BADM 607, and BADM 609. These classes will be replaced with 3, 3-hour courses. In order to keep the total number of hours for the program at 48, the number of electives was reduced from four to two. This should not interfere with student specializations as the number of electives required for the program used to be only two. The course content and name changes will reflect the new curriculum and the course numbers will be changed accordingly. Ms. Bonica asked how the new curriculum would change the process for exemption from core courses and Dr. Bebensee stated that the exemption policy will not change, that with adequate previous school work, entry-level core classes may be eligible for exemption. Dr. Bebensee noted that this idea has been well-received by students and faculty, it solves scheduling dilemmas, it aids CGPS, and it will fit more easily into the CGPS calendar. These changes are scheduled to go into effect Fall 2007. Dr. Williams motioned for the acceptance of the revised MBA curriculum and it was passed without objection.

Dr. Lassiter presented the final agenda item regarding the changes to the Education Specialist degree for School Psychology. The School Psychology program is preparing for review in 2010 and there are several standards they hope to enhance by that time. The school psychology program is improving some areas, notably, the practicum and field experience area. The titles of some courses were changed to reflect enhancements. PSYC 512 was changed to Ethics/Roles/Laws, EDUC 601 School Law is dropped, PSYC 505 now includes Emotional Assessment, and PSYC 601 is now PSYC 615/616 and changed to a 2-hour course taken across 2 semesters. PSYC 603 was removed and replaced with PSYC 617/618. Ms. Nesmith was already consulted and the new course numbers were approved. Dr. Williams asked why 'School Psych' was deleted from the course title in PSYC 512 and Dr. Lassiter answered that ethics and mental health law do not specifically apply to school psychology. Dr. Williams asked if the course was open to Clinical Counseling students as well and Dr. Johnson answered that Clinical students have their own ethics course that focuses more on one to one relationships and ethics as opposed to broad relationships that are focused on in School Psychology. Dr. Williams noted that in the future, the programs may benefit from an interdisciplinary ethics course which also may be a better way to share resources and make better use of tuition money. The number of hours remains the same. Dr. Jones asked if the School Psychology program had coordinated the changes with the School of Education. Dr. Lassiter replied affirmatively. Dr. Williams motioned for the acceptance of the changes to the Education Specialist degree and the motion was passed without objection.

The next Graduate Council meeting is scheduled in January.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray S. Jones, EdD.