

Graduate Council
December 10, 2007

Attendees: Charles Taber (Political Science and Chair), Estie Arkin (Applied Mathematics and Statistics), Ruth Ben-Zvi (Economics), Debra Caffrey (Graduate School), Allegra DeLaurentiis (Philosophy), Peter Gergen (Graduate School), Susana Huidobro (Graduate Student Advocate), Godlind Johnson (Library), Kent Marks (Graduate School), Celia Marshik (English), Lawrence Martin (Dean, Graduate School), Anne McElroy (MSRC), Brian Phillips (Geosciences), Arleen Steckel (Nursing School)

Absent Members: Andrei Antonenko (GSO), Susan O'Leary (Psychology), IV Ramakrishnan (Computer Science), Marcia Simon (Dental School), Ryan Soule (GSO)

Guest Attendees: Karol Kain Gray (Vice President for Finance and Administration), Cathy Rehman (Bursar), Lyle Gomes (Accounting Services)

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by the Graduate Council Chair, Charles Taber.

Approval of minutes

The minutes from the November 26, 2007 meeting were approved with one minor correction.

Chair's Report

Housing Task Force Report to the President's Cabinet: Charles recently delivered a Housing Task Force report to the President's Cabinet which was well-received by all.

Chapin Community Center: Since it appears that Chapin will be included in future housing plans, the university must move forward with plans for the Chapin Community Center. Peter Baigent will begin discussions of the plan with Chapin residents.

Academic Reviews for Spring: Godlind and Estie are available to participate in the Electrical and Computer Engineering department's review and Estie and Charles are available to participate in the Mechanical Engineering review, which are both scheduled for April 2008. Absent Council members will be asked of their availability before participation is finalized.

Old Business

Residency Rules for Tuition: VP for Finance and Administration Karol Gray explained how these seemingly new rules enable us to stay in compliance and that all other SUNY campuses must follow the same guidelines. The policy which establishes residency protocol for tuition purposes was distributed for further clarification. Gray hopes to request modification on the policies regarding health insurance and will circulate this request to the Graduate Council for review.

Dissertation Committees: The Council reviewed the draft dissertation committee policy and several minor changes in wording were suggested. Lacking sufficient time to discuss further, this issue will be finalized at the next meeting.

New Business

Winter Session Course Limitation: The Provost's office proposes to allow students to enroll for up to two courses during the winter session. A vote was taken to support this proposal. The majority approved.

Syllabus Statements: The Provost's office seeks the Graduate Council's approval on three statements that are mandated to appear on all teaching syllabi, including an Americans with Disabilities Act Statement, an Academic Integrity Statement, and a Critical Incident Management Statement. The Council approved the Disability Statement without revision for graduate syllabi, and suggested a minor rewording of the Academic Integrity Statement, but approved in either original or reworded form it for graduate syllabi. The Critical Incident Management Statement, however, was not approved in its current form for graduate syllabi, but the Council approved a modified version for graduate syllabi. Suggestions for rewording of the Academic Integrity and Critical Incident Management Statements will be relayed to the Provost's office. The approved statements are:

Americans with Disabilities Act: If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services, ECC (Educational Communications Center) Building, room 128, (631) 632-6748. They will determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

Academic Integrity: Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty are required to report any suspected instance of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at <http://www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary/>

Critical Incident Management: Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, and/or inhibits students' ability to learn.

Dean's Report

This item of business was postponed until the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Submitted by Debra Caffrey

Staff Assistant, The Graduate School