

Graduate Administrators Council

Koch Hall Administration Building Room

Thursday, April 2, 2009

9:00-10:30 a.m.

Attending: Phil Langlais, chair, Brenda Neuman Lewis, Bill Hain, Greg Edinger, Ed Con, Mike Miller, Bonnie Van Lunen, Robert Wojtowicz, Ted Remley, Isao Ishibashi, Osman Awan, Al Woodbury, Steven Stevenson-Marshall, Yin Xu

Approval of March 12, 2009 Minutes

Minutes approved without changes

Updates/Announcements

Dr. Phil Langlais announced that worksheets for the BLD/MSU/MS system are underway and several users have not completed or signed up for a training session. Dr. Langlais requested the associate deans remind their GPDs to take one of the BLD/MSU/MS training workshops. Responses for additional workshops are due and any specific questions about the worksheets should be posed to Steve Risden, Director of International Admissions.

Dr. Langlais distributed the CGS consultant report to Council. He stated the report had been distributed at last week's Provost Council meeting and academic deans had only just received the consultant's recommendation that ODU have one centralized graduate school/college. He indicated that the deans and provost prefer a decentralized model in which each college has its own integrated graduate school. The provost is planning a retreat to further discuss these suggestions. Dr. Langlais asked what interim graduate college means? Dr. Brenda Neuman Lewis, who was at the last Provost Council, responded that it meant each college would be responsible for its own separate graduate programs.

Dr. Langlais distributed the SFM recommendations. He reported that the SFM Steering Committee had deferred its decision regarding the recommendations on graduate studies until after the CGS consultant report was received. At last week's meeting with the chairs of the SFM sub-committee Dr. Langlais shared the Provost Council's decisions and suggested that Alice McArdy, associate vice president, coordinate the implementation of the CGS report and the Provost Council's recommendations with the provost.

Dr. Langlais distributed the recommendations of the SFM Graduate Committee regarding the assessment of quality and viability of graduate programs and the need to establish strategic priorities. Dr. Langlais reported that the SFM Graduate Committee requested that the Provost and Academic deans use the metrics provided in its recommendations to guide allocation of resources and enrollment targets.

Dr. Langlais reported that approval of the Office of Graduate Studies' Mission/Statement and Goals/Objectives has been put on hold until the Provost and Academic deans decide on the Office of Graduate Studies.

Graduate Recruitment Policy

Council reviewed the recruitment statement. Marshall and Steve suggested changes to the statement and should be reflected in the statement and suggested adding a "talent pool" in numbers 1 and 2 of the statement. Dr. Ali Ardalan suggested removing the phrase "talent pool" because diversity should not be related to the talent pool. The decision was made that the statement should be representative of graduate students and faculty at ODU and that "talent pool" would be

removed. Council agreed that this new statement should appear in the graduate catalog along with the mission statement. Dr. Osgood expressed concern about including the CGS website in the statement because it would change over time. Dr. Osgood has recommended that we create a current CGS statement in a print, provide the proper attribution to CGS and CGS, and incorporate it into the current statement.

Council unanimously approved that suggestion and the following statement:

Old Dominion University's Inclusiveness Statement

Old Dominion University is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all students and faculty. Our first priority is the provision of the highest quality of education and the best possible experience possible. We recognize and value the contributions of all individuals, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, age, religion, sexual orientation, or physical ability. Old Dominion University encourages applications from all individuals, including those from underserved and underserved populations.

In particular, we embrace the principles that:

1. A diverse graduate student body and faculty body best serves the interests of our nation;
2. A diverse student body and faculty body enhances and respects for diverse opinions and intellectual exploration, regardless of the nature of that intellectual knowledge;
3. Our graduates will thrive in a diverse environment; fostering that inclusiveness in graduate education promotes the greatest ultimate success.

Old Dominion University's inclusiveness statement is available on the website of the Council of Graduate Studies, <http://www.usgnet.org>.

Updates from 2008-09 Sub Committees

a. University Thesis/Dissertation

Dr. Robert W. Worowicz reported that the final draft of the proposal will be presented at the meeting.

b. GTA Institute (Criteria for Evaluation of Graduate Research and Recommendation for Continuation/Fairing)

Dr. Ardan reported that he is still researching and will have a report at the next GTA meeting.

Candidacy Requirements

Dr. Ted Remley raised several questions regarding the meaning of "advancement to candidacy." What happens if a student who becomes a candidate? Dr. Worowicz stated that a student is then able to register for one credit. Dr. Milroy stated that she is currently in a meeting including career advantages for ABD students. Dr. Remley then asked what an appropriate dissertation proposal is. Council agreed that proposals should be submitted by the deadline. Council also agreed that it was recommended that students should finish their proposals before the completion of their colleges. Dr. Worowicz agreed that students should finish their proposals before the completion of their

course work. Further discussion re emphasis of advanced placement requirements are uniform across the university, but AP and IB requirements are not.

Continued Discussion on Continuity of Enrollment Policy

There was a lengthy discussion on the issue of the cost of enrollment policy. Dr. Wynne Wozniak, Dr. W. stating his position that it is unnecessary for students to pay tuition during the summer and that students are required to do so. Some of the issues that were raised were faculty not on site during the summer and working with the pay. If students complete their degrees in a timely fashion, the of the academic year and the implications of enrolling in the summer. Dr. Bonnie Van Lunen asked if students will have access to resources such as labs during the summer. Council agreed that a student should have access to university resources during the summer if they are not enrolled.

Dr. Garzon suggests that the GAC can make more progress in this area. Neumon Lewis stated that there is a need for a policy that allows a student to be enrolled. Dr. Ardalan recommended that an effort be made to get a policy of enrollment for a student who has received an exception and sends just one email to a faculty seeking advice, etc. would immediately be changed to a full or half enrollment analysis. Such a policy was suggested by Dr. Ardalan and it was noted that this policy should not depend on a financial impact analysis. Council to continue the discussion at an earlier date at the next meeting of GAC.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:30 a.m.