GRADUATE COUNCIL  
April 8, 2010  
Minutes

Grad Council Members  
Present:  Rick Colwell (COAS), Theresa Filtz (Pharmacy), Denise Lach (CLA), Walt Loveland, Chair (SCI), Kathy O’Reilly (Vet Med), Jo Tynon (Forestry), Tom Wolpert (AG SCI)

Grad Council Members  
Absent:  Carolyn Aldwin (HHS), Nancy King (Business), Chris Lenn (Student Representative), Vinod Narayanan (ENGR), Darlene Russ-Eft (Education)

Ex-officio Members  
Present:  Martin Fisk, Gita Ramaswamy

Support Staff  
Present:  Nagwa Naguib

Guests:  Tom Eversole, Health and Human Sciences and Susan Tornquist, Veterinary Medicine.

1. Approval of Minutes – March 3rd, 2010

Martin Fisk suggested corrections to the March 3rd minutes:

5. History of Science Graduate Program Review Follow-Up

3rd paragraph, 4th sentence: add of science as follows:
...Nationwide, history of science programs have an average of only two PhD students a year.

March 3rd minutes approved with above corrections in underlined Italic.

2. Updates from Chair

Walt Loveland reported that all OSU units were to submit their Strategic Alignment proposals to the University Leadership by March 15. The reports, some of which are still in draft stages, have been posted on the web. They will still need to be vetted by the faculty in the respective units. Leslie Burns sent an email indicating that SABRRC is currently reviewing all the proposals and will be forwarding them to the Provost by May 31st. The President and Provost will announce the decisions and next steps on the implementation plan in early June. He noted that nothing will be implemented during Spring term, so the Council will be reviewing very few or no Category I proposals related to restructuring this term.

He then indicated that the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife has been circulating a Category I proposal changing the Department’s name. For them to get it approved, Hal Salwasser the Executive Dean of the Division of Earth Systems Science should be on board, but it seems that he does not like this proposal. The Provost informed Salwasser that those proposals will not be considered this term. However, Leslie Burns has stated that faculty governance determines the process and the Senate will consider the Department of Fish & Wildlife proposal at its May meeting.

Fisk reminded the Council of last fall’s email from the Provost in which he outlined the implementation of the OSU Strategic Plan. The Administrative and Academic
Systems Guidelines reflected a maximum of 4 levels of management; minimum of 6 direct reports; minimum of twelve students in each graduate course, which has been reduced to less than 10 students; majors should graduate an average of five master’s students per year, and two PhD degrees per year over three years.

The reports from the units show that they are trying to conform to this model. Oceanography, for instance, is trying to meet these criteria by combining three majors into one. They are also considering combining COAS with Geosciences to create a College of Earth Sciences. There are discussions around campus regarding the creation of the new institutes and schools in different colleges. He then proceeded to say that the Administrative units too had to submit reports. All of the graduate programs reporting to the Graduate School meet the criteria except for the Water Resources Graduate Program as it is quite a new program. He invited Graduate Council members to comment on the Graduate School report.

3. **DVM/HHS Dual Degree**

Tom Eversole joined the meeting. Susan Tornquist joined a few minutes later. Eversole provided the following proposed motion:

**Proposed Motion:**

- **Students may co-enroll in professional and graduate programs. This will be referred to as enrollment in a 'dual degree' program. Enrollment in each program will require a separate admissions decision. Only students who have completed a Bachelor's degree may enroll in a graduate program.**

- **For students enrolled in a dual degree program, enrollment in either professional courses or graduate courses will satisfy the continuous enrollment requirement of the Graduate School for a specific term.**

- **Students may use 'graduate approved' courses in professional programs (specific graduate approved 7XX courses) as also satisfying the requirements of their graduate program if taken while co-enrolled as a professional and graduate student. Responsibility for defining a student's graduate program, including selection and approval of the student's curriculum, lies with the student's graduate committee. In this and all other aspects, the progression of students will follow normal processes and policies for a graduate program established by the Graduate Council and implemented by the Graduate School will be followed.**

- **Completion of graduate programs will be confirmed and degrees granted using established Graduate School procedures. Completion of professional programs will be confirmed and degrees granted using established procedures for the respective colleges.**

Proposal moved by Jo Tynon, seconded by Kathy O'Reilly.

Eversole presented the motion to the Council by indicating that the Colleges of Veterinary Medicine and Health and Human Sciences would like to implement a dual degree program of DVM/MPH. The DVM is a professional degree not overseen by the Graduate School and the MPH is a Masters degree in the Graduate School. They have the pieces in place to implement it. Students will save a year as they could complete this degree in five years instead of six. Winter term of Year 2, they will take professional courses (7XX) in VM and Public Health, and Epidemiology
courses, which would apply to both the DVM and the MPH. The latter is a non-thesis degree.

Fisk wondered if they can restrict the enrollment in the 7XX courses to students in the dual degree programs. Eversole responded that the student will need to be admitted to the program to earn the dual degrees. Susan Tornquist indicated that occasionally this happens, and given certain conditions, it might happen again.

Fisk asked how taking 10 or 12 credits of dual counted courses as given in the example will lead to a compression of the program from six to five years.

Eversole indicated that the MPH is mostly done in a period of two years. This program allows students to compress their degrees.

When asked what the expectations from the students were, Eversole responded that they wanted them grounded more in the Vet Med courses, and this will occur when they take public health courses during summer term. Loveland pointed out that the curriculum lists a large number of required courses.

Eversole proceeded by saying that in Public Health, the students present a paper summarizing their internship, followed by an oral exam. He clarified that the main concern is the funding from the federal agencies in form of scholarships. Different agencies, eg. WHO, CDC, as well as the military, offer a number of internships to the MPH students.

Fisk reminded Eversole that the Graduate School will hold MPH students to the 7-year masters rule. The 7-year rule starts at the first course of enrollment. If they are on assistantships, they will need to register for 12 credits.

Loveland pointed out that the motion points are all taken from the PharmD/PhD motion approved by the Council at its February 19th, 2010 meeting. Theresa Filtz wondered if there was a different track than the epidemiology one. Eversole responded that international health could be another track.

The Council agreed that VM7XX courses approved for use on the MPH degree would need to be approved by the Graduate Council through the Category II approved process.

**Motion:** DVM/MPH is approved as a dual degree program following the same guidelines established for the PharmD/Phd. Motion passed.

4. **Category I proposal – Terminate Comparative Vet Med Degree**

O’Reilly informed the Council that all the students registered in that degree, are MCB students, an average of one or two students a year. Loveland asked if any OUS school would object to this action. O’Reilly responded that this move will be better for the students as they will be trained more broadly. Rick Colwell asked what prompted the creation of this degree. O’Reilly responded that at the time of its creation, there were students in the program. As biology evolved, and more faculty joined the College, this PhD program has become less and less used. Gita Ramaswamy wondered how the research funding will be affected. Students come in and are funded by the faculty, so there is no financial implication to this degree termination. The College’s funding is increasing.
Motion: Terminate Comparative Vet Med Degree. Tom Wolpert moved, Theresa Filtz seconded. Motion passed.

5. Accreditation Process - Core Theme #2: Graduate Education and Research

Loveland provided the Council with a draft of the Steering Committee’s goals for Core Theme #2: Graduate Education and Research. He then informed the Council that the University set some milestones to get the accreditation process underway. The process will include establishing the mission of the University and the three core themes.

The themes established by the Accreditation Steering Committee are:
1. Undergraduate Education;
2. Graduate Education and Research; and
3. Outreach.

The Graduate Council as well as the Research Council will be involved in Core Theme #2, Graduate Education and Research. We will need to define the graduate education as it is practiced at OSU, being a research university.

Denise Lach suggested changing the Core Theme #2 to Research and Graduate Education to cover both undergraduate and graduate research. She also suggested adding scholarship to research and education.

The Council discussed the document and suggested changes for Loveland to take to the Chris Bell, Chair of the Accreditation Steering Committee and Committee members.

6. Creation of PSM Programs

Loveland introduced the agenda item regarding Creation of PSM Programs. He indicated that units want to go forward with different PSM programs. He asked if we wanted each unit to submit a Category I proposal for each PSM program. Should they be abbreviated processes, i.e. Category II proposals? Email correspondences have been occurring with Susie Leslie, Leslie Burns, Ursula Bechert, Sally Francis, Marty Fisk and Michael Harte regarding this process. Susie Leslie indicated that she would be comfortable with the Category II process.

Loveland wondered if the Budgets and Fiscal Planning Committee (BFPC) and/or the Faculty Senate Executive Committee need to review those proposals. Leslie Burns agreed that it would be appropriate for committees like BFPC to review and provide input on Category II proposals. There is no need for existing programs who want to add an option of a PSM degree, to submit Category I proposals which will require an external review or an OUS approval. He asked the Graduate Council how they would like to deal with the new PSMs.

Lach wondered why those proposals should not be reviewed as Category I proposals, if they are new graduate programs? Loveland responded that Category I implies a long time cycle for approval. Tynon suggested that this issue should be given a thoughtful consideration, and not being pushed expediently.

Fisk noted that those PSM proposals are in areas where they already have masters degrees and non-thesis options. The number of credits has increased to 30 credits of science core, 18 credits of professional courses and 6 credits of internship. The professional courses are roughly equivalent to a minor on a 45-credit masters but the PSM requires more than 45 credits. Submitting a Category I for a slight
modification might not be the best approach. He then reported that Sally Francis suggested that the OUS Provosts Council would not want to see these proposals. The State is backing the PSMs in a great way.

Tom Wolpert remarked that some masters’ degrees are escape routes, as they are non-thesis. Fisk suggested the students could get a traditional non-thesis masters including the newly proposed PSM certificate and thus meet all the requirements for the PSM. A short discussion followed. It was suggested that a Category II to create a PSM in a programs that already has a non-thesis masters might be one way to create new PSMs. Fisk reminded the Council that the Fisheries and Wildlife has submitted a Category I proposal to create a PSM because they do not have non-thesis masters degrees in that program.

The Council indicated that the critical elements in approving new PSM degrees would be: (a) library evaluation (b) BFPC evaluation (c) GC approval and (d) CC approval. Any process that includes these elements would be acceptable.

Adjourned 9:45 am