

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES
September 21, 2006, 1:30 pm, Wingo 315

The Graduate Council met Thursday, September 21, 2006, in Wingo 315. The following members participated: Kathleen Atkins, Don Bradley, Jane Dahlenburg, Amanda Doyle, Janet Filer, Don Jones, Patricia Kohler-Evans, Weikiu Liu, Elaine McNiece, Susan Moss-Logan, James Murray, Nancy Reese, Mike Rubach, David Skotko, and Janet Wilson. Brooks Green, Chair of Geography, also attended. Members absent: Joe Anderson, Keith Atkinson, Ramesh Garimella, Stephanie Vanderslice, and Danny Glassman.

I. Dean McNiece reported on following:

- a. Dates for the October and November meetings of the Graduate Council have been changed to October 24 and November 30. There will not be a meeting of the Graduate Council in December.
- b. Graduate enrollment and productivity reports by program were distributed.
- c. Graduate recruitment materials were distributed.

II. Graduate Council Minutes from July 13, 2006 were approved as corrected.

III. Dr. Susan Moss Logan was elected secretary of the Graduate Council.

IV. Graduate Faculty Applications

Kathleen Atkins, presented the Subcommittee report for Stephanie Vanderslice, Chair of Subcommittee I. Subcommittee I recommended all applications for Graduate Faculty status. Recommendation was seconded by Susan Moss-Logan.

Stephen Seidman	CS	5191, 6399, Thesis
Stephen Runge	BIOL	5530, 5390, 5490, 6X95, 6382, 6430, 6X71, 6x01, 6102
Paul Hamilton	BIOL	5401, 5415, Thesis, Graduate Seminar

Vote to approve was unanimous with review in 8 years (2014).

Ginny Adams	BIOL	5100, 5X71, 5X90, 5402, 6X01, 6X71, 6X95, 6290, 6442, 6443
John-David Swanson	BIOL	5X1, 5210, 5X90, 5404, 5405, 5415, 5445, 6X01, 6102, 6X71, 6290, 6440, 6480, 6382
Terri Hebert	ASTL	5302, 5340, 6301, 6302, 6303, 6305, 6310
	LIBM	6340, 6353, 6368, 6370, 6371
	MSTS	6322, 6323, 6354, 6358
Angela Webster	SLMA	6610, 6550/6150, 6520/6120, 6460/ 6260
Michael Hargis	MBA	5340, 6310, 6312

Vote to approve with review in 3 years (2009) with two abstentions.

Discussion regarding level of scholarship required for initial appointment to the graduate faculty was referred to Subcommittee I.

V. New Program Proposal/New Course Proposals/Curriculum Changes

Janet Filer, Chair of Subcommittee II, presented the Subcommittee report with a summary of subcommittee deliberations and recommendations.

A. New Program Proposal -- MGIS- Master of Geographic Information Systems

New Program Proposal - Master of Geographic Information Systems (MGIS)

The Master of Geographic Information Systems (MGIS) degree is modeled after the online Executive MBA programs which are now quite popular and successful across the county. Students who enroll in the Degree will ideally have had previous GIS coursework (having taken at least one GIS course at the undergraduate level) or be currently employed in a position which requires the use of GIS or GIS-based information services (i.e., either a GIS professional seeking greater training or someone who must manage GIS workers or who needs information from a GIS to perform his/her job).

New Course Proposals for Master of Geographic Information Systems

GEOG	6360	Directed Readings in Geographic Information Science
GIS	6380	Research Methods
GEOG	6390	Thesis Research

Change Level of Courses for the Master of Geographic Information Systems

GEOG	5328	Spatial Analysis and Modeling
To		
GEOG	6328	Spatial Analysis and Modeling
GEOG	5320	Technical Issues in GIS
To		
GEOG	6320	Technical Issues in GIS

Subcommittee II recommended approval the Masters of Geographic Information Systems and accompanying new course proposals with modifications as outlined by the subcommittee. Seconded by Jim Murray. Following discussion of the Subcommittee recommendations, the Vote to approve was unanimous.

VI. Change in composition of Graduate Thesis and Dissertation Committees

Janet Wilson, Chair of Subcommittee III, moved to remove from the Table the proposal from Biology to eliminate the requirement for an outside member of the thesis committee. ***Motion passed.***

Dr. Wilson reported on thesis and dissertation committee composition at 22 peer institutions. Sixteen do not require an outside member of a master's thesis committee. In support of the request from the Department of Biology for a change in the required composition of the thesis committee, **Subcommittee III recommended approval of the following wording change to the Master's Thesis Committee section of the Thesis and Dissertation Preparation Guide:**

OLD: The committee shall be composed of a minimum of three members: the major professor, a second member of the graduate faculty of the discipline involved, and a third graduate faculty member from outside the student's department.

NEW: The committee shall be composed of a minimum of three members: the major professor, a second member of the graduate faculty of the discipline involved, and a third graduate faculty member who may be from outside the student's department.

In order to clarify the process of identifying those who will serve on a Master's Thesis and Dissertation Committee, the Committee recommend including two new forms in the Thesis and Dissertation Preparation Guide, (1) *Notice of Intent to Complete a Master's Thesis*, and (2) *Notice of Appointment of Dissertation Committee*.

Motion to approve was 13 yes, 1 no.

VII. Election of Student Member for Graduate Council

Jacey Calhoun, a graduate student in speech-language pathology, was elected to serve on the Graduate Council for 2006-2007.

VIII. Information Item: Proposal to offer existing course on-line

Leadership Studies

EDLP 6325 School Community Relations

IX. Courtney Powell and Michael Schoultz were presented plaques signifying receipt of the 2006-2007 Robert W. McLauchlin Graduate Scholarships. The recipients were honored by the Graduate Council with a reception. Also attending were Dean Neil Hattlestad, Dr. John Lowe, Sharon Ross, and family members of both recipients.