

**Graduate Academic Council
2002 – 2003**

Minutes of the Council meeting of March 14, 2003
Amended & approved by the Council on March 31, 2003

In attendance: M. Gallant, S. Maloney, B. Spanier, L. Cohen, M. Casserly, H. Charalambous, E. Block, K. Trent, J. Rudolph, R. Irving, J. Mumpower, K. Sarfoh, L. Raffalovich, L. Trubitt, C. MacDonald (Chair), & J. Bartow (staff)

Unable to attend: C. Smith, C. Bischoff, M. Genkin, & Vivien Ng

1. Minutes from the meeting of 2/28/03 were unanimously approved without amendment.
2. Dean's Report – J. Mumpower
 - Grad applications for fall 2003 are up, as of 3/3/03. 1500 masters apps compared to 1450 at the same point last year; 1466 doctoral applications compared to 1288 last year. The growth in applications is common to both domestic and international areas.
 - Graduate tuition is likely to go up, although specifics about how much are unclear at this point in time. Hopefully there will be a corresponding increase in the tuition scholarship pool so that support for funded students is not diminished.
 - INS/Visa issues have become more complicated for international students and families.
3. Chair's Report – C. MacDonald
 - By-Law revisions are grinding on. An update may be viewed on the Senate website.
 - The misconduct policy is on the 3/17/03 Senate agenda.
4. Committee on Admissions & Academic Standing Report – H. Charalambous

The CAAS met on 3/12/03. Professor Charalambous reviewed the two items recommended in the written report (below). The Council voted unanimously to accept the report and approve the items contained therein.
5. Committee on Educational Policy & Procedure Report – R. Irving

The CEPP met on 3/11/03 and discussed the academic grievance proposal that has come from UAC. Bob Gibson attended on behalf of UAC. It was determined that a common UAC/GAC proposal is desirable. A joint "conference" committee, to include our Counsel, will be meeting to iron out any differences and propose a unified policy for further consideration.

The next meeting of the GAC is scheduled for 3/31/03 at 3:30 PM in CC 370

END OF 3/14/03 GAC MINUTES

To: Graduate Academic Council

From: Hara Charalambous, Chair
GAC Committee on Admissions & Academic Standing (CAAS)

Date: March 12, 2003

Subj: Report and Recommendations

The CAAS met on 3/12/03. In attendance were: A. Boehm, C. Wagner, D. Peterson, K. Trent, H. Charalambous (Chair), J. Rudolph, L. Trubitt, J. Bartow (staff), M. Brown & S. Maloney. One item of business was considered and acted upon. It is recommended to the Council for two actions:

1. The Committee considered a recommendation from the School of Criminal Justice that an exception to University policy be authorized to allow the award of a Master of Arts degree to a student with less than a 3.0 grade point average in necessary course work. The policy on exceptions to regulations includes the following:

Requests for exceptions to any of the following regulations established for the award of a graduate degree may not be considered:

1. academic grade standards;
2. credit requirements;
3. residence study requirements;
4. seminar, thesis, research, and field course requirements for a master's degree; field examination for a master's degree;
5. tool and foreign language requirements;
6. requirements established for admission to candidacy for a doctoral degree;
7. dissertation requirements for a doctoral degree.

In consideration of the above policy reference, particularly item 1, it was the unanimous view of the Committee that the exception requested is not allowed by University policy. It is accordingly recommended that the Council deny the School's petition on behalf of the former student. It is also recommended that for purposes of increased clarity, the word "may" in the defining policy sentence be replaced with the word "will."

It should be noted that in subsequent discussion, the Committee identified two potentially acceptable alternate approaches that might be pursued toward the end of degree award to the student and asked that the Associate Dean of the School of Criminal Justice be informed of such.