

**Graduate Academic Council
2002 – 2003**

Minutes of the Council meeting of February 28, 2003

Approved by the Council on March 14, 2003

In attendance: C. Smith, L. Cohen, M. Casserly, H. Charalambous, C. Bischoff, E. Block, K. Trent, J. Rudolph, R. Irving, J. Mumpower, M. Genkin K. Sarfoh, L. Raffalovich, L. Trubitt, C. MacDonald (Chair), J. Bartow (staff) & J. Newman (guest)

Unable to attend: G. Singh, S. Maloney, B. Spanier, Vivien Ng, & M. Gallant

1. Minutes from the meeting of 11/15/02 were amended (copy below) and unanimously approved
2. Minutes from the meeting of 12/6/02 were amended (copy below) and unanimously approved.
3. Dean's Report – J. Mumpower
 - Graduate applications for Fall 2003 are significantly up.
 - The Nanosciences & Nanoengineering Programs Proposal was approved by the Senate & President and has been transmitted to SUNY.
 - Graduate Instruction – The issue of enforcement of policy and consideration for exceptions will be discussed with the academic deans.
4. Chair's Report – C. MacDonald
 - Today's agenda should be amended to include discussion of (1) the grade change grievance policy being proposed by UAC and (2) procedures for considering graduate instruction exceptions.
 - Academic misconduct issues may surface for Senate consideration. Keep an eye on the Senate agenda for such.
 - Students are still seeking to have open GA/TA positions noted on an appropriate website.
 - GAC matters/progress should similarly be posted to the GAC/Senate website.
5. Academic Standing Committee – H. Charalambous: No report
6. Curriculum & Instruction Committee – L. Raffalovich

The C&I Committee met on 2/27/02. Professor Raffalovich briefly reviewed the 5 items in the Committee's written report to the Council (below). The council voted unanimously (15 – 0) to accept the report and approve the items contained therein.
7. Educational Policy & Procedures Committee – R. Irving

The Committee has not met yet this term. In regard to the draft proposal from the UAC regarding grade change grievances, the CEP&P discussed the matter last semester. Issues of whom might become authorized to change grades against the will of as instructor of record and whom might serve to provide alternate evaluations of students' work were of concern to the Committee. Yet, the Committee recognized the value of potentially having a uniform policy at the University

pertaining to such matters for students, be they graduate or undergraduate. The Committee tabled the item before it to seek further consultation with the UAC. A response has been received from Prof. Reed Hoyt of the UAC that in part states "The UAC believes that the grievance procedures for undergraduate vis a vis those for graduate students differ sufficiently that we can have separate rules."

Graduate Council members commented that (1) two distinct policies (grad/undergrad) might be unwise and that (2) an opinion from the University's attorney on such might be advisable.

A motion was made and seconded that "The GAC recommends that an attempt to establish a unified policy, including agreement by UAC, GAC and Counsel as to wording, should be sought." The GAC voted unanimously (15 – 0) to approve the motion and ask that the Chair report such to the Senate Executive Committee, the Senate if appropriate, and the UAC.

8. M.S. Educational Psychology

Professor Joan Newman, Division Director for the Ed Psych program introduced the proposal (previously distributed to Council members) to amend the existing M.S. program in Educational Psychology. She distributed summary copies of the current program and the new track. The proposal call for the establishment *within existing degree requirements* for a specific track that, upon completion by students, will serve to qualify them for teacher certification. As matters of teacher certification programs must be registered with the State Education Department, GAC endorsement of the specific proposal is sought. The Council discussed the matter briefly and then voted unanimously (15 – 0) to approve the curriculum proposal.

9. BA/MA Political Science/Public Affairs & Policy

The proposal (previously distributed to Council members) to establish this combined program, involving a potential overlap of up to 12 (graduate) credits, was reviewed by the Council. Noting that all graduate program requirements for the M.A. will be fulfilled within the combined program, the Council voted unanimously (15 – 0) to approve the Proposal. Following editing (to replace MPP with MA Public Affairs & Policy) and corresponding approval by the UAC, the Proposal to establish the combined program will be ready for joint introduction by the UAC and GAC for Senate consideration.

10. Graduate Instruction

The Council returned to a discussion of how best to handle requests for exception to standard requirements for faculty qualification to provide graduate instruction. Dean Mumpower highlighted his particular concerns about such requests receiving timely review during the summer months or similar "off season" periods. The GAC Committee on Ed Policy & Procedures will continue to consider this matter as they were asked to do in December 2002 by the Council. Dean Mumpower committed to raise the issue with the academic deans and provide feedback to the Council and Committee. The Council asked that Jon Bartow additionally solicit comments about criteria for exceptions to be considered by GAC and process concerns from the graduate programs at the University.

By unanimous consent, the GAC meeting was adjourned.

END OF 2/28/03 GAC MINUTES

To: Graduate Academic Council

From: Professor Lawrence Raffalovich, Chair

GAC Committee on Curriculum & Instruction (CC&I)

Date: February 27, 2003

Subj.: Report and Recommendations

The CC&I met on 2/27/03. In attendance were: L. Raffalovich (Chair), K. Quinn, K. Sarfoh, D. Parker, J. Bartow (staff), R.-M. Weber, F. Henderson, E. Block, & A. Cervantes-Rodriguez. Professors M. Gallant & G. Pogarsky were unable to attend, although both did forward comments in advance pertaining to agenda items.

Five proposals were considered as listed below. Each was thoroughly discussed and the Committee unanimously recommends all for approval by the Council. It should be noted that Prof. Henderson abstained from the vote on item 2, as it was from his department.

1. School of Social Welfare – Ph.D. Program

It is proposed that the residency requirement for the Ph.D. program be modified to become two terms at nine credits each term. The University-wide policy on full-time study in residence for doctoral programs was modified in 1999, allowing for each program to establish residency requirements, subject to GAC approval. The faculty of Social Welfare have proposed an amended requirement for their program with a rationale as detailed in their proposal.

2. Geography – M.A. Program

The faculty propose to establish a non-thesis track within their M.A. program, aimed at serving those interested in considering the M.A. their terminal degree prior to seeking employment. The rationale and proposed revisions detailing two tracks within the program are detailed in the proposal.

3. Curriculum & Instruction Ph.D. Program, Department of Educational Theory & Practice

It is proposed by the faculty that the Internship requirement of the program becomes optional and that the credits associated with the internship be reduced from 4-8 to 1-6. Total program credit requirements are not proposed for change. The proposal is advanced noting that “not all students benefit from the internship experience, especially not the extensive experience.”

4. M. S. Secondary Education Programs, Department of Educational Theory & Practice

It is proposed that the research seminar requirement in each of the nine discipline based secondary education programs be amended to delete ETAP580 (Introduction to Classroom Research) and replaced by either ETAP 680 (Research Seminar: Critical Introduction to Educational Research Paradigms) or ETAP681 (Research Seminar: Research in Practice). Credit requirements of the programs remain unchanged.

5. Curriculum Design & Instructional Technology, Advanced Classroom Teaching and General Educational Studies M.S. Programs, Department of Educational Theory & Practice

It is proposed that ETAP 681 (Research Seminar: Research in Practice) be added to the curricula as an alternative within the current “culminating research seminar” requirement for each program. This will be in addition to the traditional ETAP 680 (Research Seminar: Critical Introduction to Educational Research Paradigms).

