

## UNL GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting of October 9, 2009

The UNL Graduate Council convened at 3:30 p.m. in Room 206 of Seaton Hall. Present were: Professors Charles Anson, Susan Belasco, Andrea Bolland, Elizabeth Jones, Susan Lawrence, William Wagner, Thomas Zorn, student representative Tareq Tawaiha; and Ex-officio: Dean Ellen Weissinger, Asst. Dean Laurie Bellows and Assistant to the Dean Barbara Brennan. Dean of Graduate Studies Ellen Weissinger presided.

### April 16, 2009 Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously.

### Proposal for changes in graduate assistant summer registration policy

Current policy requires graduate assistants who are employed during summer sessions to be registered in the term(s) in which they are paid. A proposal to make summer registration optional for those employed as graduate assistants during the summer was presented to Graduate Council as the requirement is not governed by the Board of Regents nor by the system-wide Graduate College. The proposal was tabled so that a financial breakdown sheet showing pros and cons of changing the mandatory enrollment policy could be created along with language that students may not be disadvantaged by the change in policy.

### Proposal to offer an Adaptive Management specialization within Natural Resource Sciences degrees

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Adaptive Management specialization. A question of whether the title is too broad or likely to be confused with business management coursework came up during discussion. The motion was tabled for inquiries to the Management Graduate Committee. The Management Graduate Committee withdrew their concerns after the matter was clarified; via mail ballot, the proposal was approved.

### Proposal to offer a Child Development/Early Childhood Education specialization within the masters in Child, Youth & Family Studies

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Child Development/Early Childhood Education specialization. No concerns presented during discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

### Proposal to offer a Human and Family Services Administration specialization within the masters in Child, Youth & Family Studies

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Human and Family Services Administration specialization. No concerns presented during discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

### Report from the Graduate Student Association

--GSA shared information about hosting the 2009 national conference for the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students at UNL in mid-November. They hope to offer several registration fee waivers to UNL graduate students who want to attend.

--GSA is beginning planning work for the Graduate Student Appreciation Week in the spring.

### Announcements

- Council will continue to work on a Parental Leave policy for graduate students which creates a right to unpaid leave and extends some academic timelines; intended completion by end of academic year.
- Science for Educators specialization in Applied Science – approved 7-20-09
- Ph.D. in Music, proposal at Central Administration awaiting external review (scheduled for November)
- Earth Science for Educators graduate certificate – IANR Vice Chancellor's office

The meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.