

UNL GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting of April 14, 2011

The UNL Graduate Council convened at 3:30 p.m. in Room 206 of Seaton Hall. Present were: Professors Andrea Bolland, Elizabeth Jones, Susan Lawrence, Jon Pedersen, Mark van Roojen and Mark Walker; student representatives Laura Lynch and Sylvia Jons; Ex-officio members: Acting Dean Kim Espy and Assistant Dean Laurie Bellows; Jan Hostetler, Director of Graduate Admissions; Jane Schneider and Suzi Tamerius, Office of Graduate Studies. Guest in attendance from the College of Engineering: Interim Dean Jim O'Hanlon. Acting Dean Kim Espy presided.

March 10, 2011 Minutes

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

Proposal for the College of Engineering to create PhD

Interim Dean Jim O'Hanlon was present to discuss the proposals to create seven stand-alone PhD programs in the College of Engineering. Following discussion, a motion was made and seconded requesting the College of Engineering include a supplement to the proposal describing the restructured Unified PhD. The motion passed unanimously.

Proposal to increase Graduate Studies minimums for IBT/PBT TOEFL

A motion was made to approve the proposed increase of the minimum IBT score from 61 to 79 and the minimum PBT score from 500 to 550. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The new standards will take effect July 1, 2011.

Proposal to establish an Elementary Teaching specialization

A motion was made to approve an Elementary Teaching specialization within the master's of arts degree in Teaching, Learning, and Teacher Education. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Proposal to establish a Response to Intervention: Reading Certificate Program

A motion was made to approve a Response to Intervention: Reading Certificate Program within the department of Teaching, Learning, and Teacher Education. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Clarification on issue relating to time between doctoral defense and deposit of dissertation

After discussion, the Council decided that the Doctoral Specialist should handle the individual case in question. The Council also agreed to look at what other graduate colleges in the Big 10 have as guidelines and look into setting a Best Practice guideline in the future.

GSA Report

Reported by Laura Lynch, GSA President

- The GSA is working to help a Geography PhD candidate from Thailand get her VISA back. It was taken from her when she arrived at the Seattle airport to attend a conference.
- Graduate Student Appreciation week went well. They had a good turnout for both the Professional development activities and the fun events.

Announcements

- Mark Walker and Thomas Zorn have completed their terms on the council. Mark was present and was thanked for his service.
- No Meeting is scheduled for May.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.