

## UNL GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting of January 12, 2012

The UNL Graduate Council convened at 3:30 p.m. in Room 206 of Seaton Hall. Present were: Professors Elizabeth Jones, Susan Lawrence, Jody Redepenning, David Smith and Mark van Roojen; student representatives Sylvia Jons and Jared Leighton; Ex-officio members: Dean Pat Dussault and Assistant Dean Laurie Bellows; Kate Adams, University Libraries; Suzi Tamerius, Office of Graduate Studies. Dean Pat Dussault presided.

### November 10, 2011 Minutes

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

### Discussion with Professor Kate Adams from University Libraries

Dr. Adams discussed with the Council what Graduate students need from the Libraries. One specific request was access for faculty and students to the online catalogs of the other CIC institutions. Another request was the possibility of 24 hour availability for students to study. Dr. Adams will meet with the GSA to talk with student representatives about their specific needs.

### Proposal for a Certificate in Digital Humanities

After reviewing the revised proposal, a motion was made and seconded to approve the new graduate certificate in Digital Humanities. The motion passed unanimously.

### Proposal for a Certificate in Financial and Housing Counseling

After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve a new graduate certificate in Financial and Housing Counseling administered by Child, Youth and Family Studies. The motion passed unanimously.

### Proposal for a Certificate in Transdisciplinary Childhood Obesity Prevention

After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to ask for clarification on several parts of the proposal: clarification of the requirement that states a student will need to successfully complete a thesis or dissertation in order to receive the certificate and the statement that ongoing evaluation of the certificate will review the pass rate of the comprehensive exams to be taken within three months of competing the certificate course. The motion passed unanimously.

### GSA Report

Reported by Sylvia Jons, GSA President

- The GSA voted to integrate into ASUN
- GSA is still working on travel funds for Graduate Students. A \$1 per credit hour fee for graduate students will be implemented and funds will hopefully be available by August.
- Graduate Student Appreciation Week will be celebrated along with the Research Fair in April.
- Meetings are scheduled to continue discussion on forming a Big 10 Graduate Council

### Supervisory Committee Conflict of Interest Policy

Following discussion of a draft of a best practice document concerning conflict of interest between students and committee members who also employ a student separately from advising their thesis research, council members agreed that there should not be a published policy at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 4:49 p.m.