

UNL GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting of September 13, 2012

The UNL Graduate Council convened at 3:00 p.m. in Room 206 of Seaton Hall. Present were: Professors Andrea Bolland, Elizabeth Jones, Jon Pedersen, Mark van Roojen, Jody Redepenning, David Smith, Rita Kean and Melanie Simpson; student representative Jared Leighton; Ex-officio members: Dean Lance Pérez and Associate Dean Laurie Bellows; Hollie Swanson, Office of Graduate Studies. Guests in attendance were Eva Bachman and Jane Schneider, Office of Graduate Studies. Dean Lance Pérez presided.

New members were introduced.

Approval of March 8, 2012 Minutes

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

Review of Graduate Council Charge

The Council reviewed and agreed upon the Graduate Council Charge.

Proposal for a Specialization in Animal Breeding & Genetics

The proposal creates a new specialization in Animal Breeding and Genetics Nutrition within the department of Animal Science. A motion was made and seconded to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

Proposal for a Specialization in Nonruminant Nutrition

The proposal creates a new specialization in Nonruminant Nutrition within the department of Animal Science. A motion was made and seconded to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

Proposal for a Specialization in Ruminant Nutrition

The proposal creates a new specialization in Ruminant Nutrition within the department of Animal Science. A motion was made and seconded to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

Proposal for a Specialization in Geoscience Education

The proposal creates a new specialization in specialization in Geoscience Education within the department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. A motion was made and seconded to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

Proposal for a Specialization in GPIDEA: Family and Community Services

The proposal creates a new specialization in Family and Community Services within the master's program in Child, Youth and Family Studies. The proposal was tabled for further review. An email ballot will be sent to Council members.

Graduate Student Conference Travel Award Proposal

The Council considered a proposal for a pilot project that would provide funds for graduate student travel grants to assist eligible PhD and MFA students traveling to national conferences and/or seminars to make presentations on behalf of the University. After discussion, the Council indicated their support for the proposed pilot program. Lance Perez indicated he would work with the Senior Vice Chancellor's office to move the proposal forward.

Proposal to Change in Graduate Faculty Associate Status for Adjunct Faculty Appointments

Lance Pérez explained the eligibility requirements for Graduate Faculty Associate status, noting that adjunct faculty are eligible for Graduate Faculty Associate status while lecturer appointments are not. Recently, several adjunct faculty with Graduate Faculty Associate status have been hired as lecturers, which would make them ineligible to retain their Graduate Faculty Associate status. The Council discussed the Office of Graduate Studies recommendation to classify adjunct appointments as “courtesy” appointments for the purpose of Graduate Faculty Associate status. A motion was made and seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

GSA Report

Jared Leighton, GSA President, discussed the GSA Committee focus this year:

- Health Insurance, regarding better pharmacy benefits, concern of increasing student fees, and offering additional tiers of coverage
- Increasing Recruitment
- Increased cooperation with ASUN. Help in assisting international students with housing.
- Investigate graduate student travel to foreign countries.

Other

Dr. Lance Pérez brought forth an issue, expressed by a department chair, concerning graduate students being required to use huskers.unl.edu email domain as a permanent address. Jared Leighton, GSA President will discuss with further GSA members to gather input.

The meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

Addendum

The proposal for a specialization in GPIDEA: Family and Community Services passed via email ballot.