MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
May 2, 2001
2:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Winfred Phillips, Chair, Dr. Carol Reed Ash, Dr. Gijs Bosman, Dr. Lauren Chapman, Ms. Raina Joines, Dr. Pushpa Kalra

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Dawn Bowers, Dr. William Calin, Dr. Bob Kennedy, Dr. Stephen Pearton, Dr. Jill Peterson, Dr. Jerry Stimac, Dr. Henri Van Rinsvelt

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Denise Atteberry, Dr. Sheldon Isenberg, Ms. Jaimee Perez, Dr. Anna Peterson, Dr. Gerhardt Ritter, Ms. Barbara Talmadge, Dr. Joseph Wilson, Dr. Richard Yost

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Ms. Linda Vivian, Ms. Helen Martin

The April meeting was rescheduled for a later date due to scheduling conflicts.

Dr. Winfred Phillips, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. The minutes of the March 15, 2001 Graduate Council meeting were unanimously approved as written.

2. Dr. Sheldon Isenberg and Dr. Anna Peterson from the Department of Religion and Dr. Richard Yost from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences presented a proposal for a new Ph.D. degree program in religion. The degree is intended to prepare students for academic careers by providing a broad intellectual foundation and the specialized training needed to conduct scholarly research and develop excellence in teaching for prospective college and university professors. In addition to completing core courses, students are required to select one of the three specializations in religion and ecology, religion in Asia, and religion in the Americas.

Following discussion, the Graduate Council developed and unanimously approved a motion to allow a 3-year pilot study requiring the PRAXIS II along with the GRE for admission to elementary and special education Master's of Education programs.
The intent of the Graduate Council in approving this motion was to obtain data on both tests so a quantitative relation between the PRAXIS II and the GRE can be established.

Dr. Phillips was not able to stay for the entire meeting. Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, acting chair, presided over the remainder of the meeting.

3. Dr. Stephanie Hanson from the College of Health Professions and Dr. Mike McKenzie from the College of Pharmacy presented a proposal for a joint PharmD/Master of Public Health degree program. Students complete their first two years in the pharmacy program and then complete one full year of MPH coursework. During the fourth and fifth years, students would register for coursework concurrently. Up to 12 hours of pharmacy coursework would count toward the 36-credit MPH degree.

The major focus of the program is to educate students in the delivery of pharmaceutical care with public health principles in the areas of public health management and policy, community health education, or epidemiology. The Council unanimously approved the program.

4. Dr. Stephanie Hanson from the College of Health Professions and Dr. Scott Tomar from the College of Dentistry presented a proposal for a joint Doctor of Dental Medicine/Master of Public Health degree program. Students would take coursework simultaneously from both programs, with the first MPH course required by the end of the second term of dentistry studies. Up to 12 credits of professional coursework would count toward the MPH degree.

This program is designed so that students are able to integrate their knowledge and skills in the delivery of clinical dental services with public health principles. The Council unanimously approved the program.

5. The nominating committee presented the slate of nominees for new Council members who will serve for the 2001-2004 term. The election will be conducted in April using an electronic and paper balloting process. The Council unanimously approved the slate of nominees.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.