MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
October 18, 2001
1:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:  Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Acting Chair, Dr. Gijs Bosman,
Dr. Lauren Chapman, Dr. Marjorie Hoy, Dr. Jill
Peterson, Dr. Henri Van Rinsvelt

MEMBERS ABSENT:  Dr. Winfred Phillips, Chair, Dr. James Algina, Dr.
Dawn Bowers, Dr. William Calin, Dr. Richard Condit,
Dr. Kirk Hatfield, Dr. James Jones, Dr. Bob Kennedy,
Dr. Stephen Pearton, Ms. Jaimee Perez

GUESTS PRESENT:  Dr. Raphael Haftka

STAFF PRESENT:  Dr. Dovie Gamble, Ms. Linda Vivian, Ms. Gann
Enholm, Mr. Gary Hartge, Ms. Helen Martin

Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

I.  ACTION ITEMS

1. The minutes of the September 20, 2001, Graduate Council meeting were approved as
   written.

2. Dr. Raphael Haftka from the College of Engineering presented a proposal for a Ph.D.
   degree to be jointly conferred to Laurent Grosset by the University of Florida and the
   Ecole de Mines in St. Etienne, France. Mr. Grosset is a doctoral student in engineering
   mechanics in the Department of Aerospace Engineering, Mechanics and Engineering
   Science. This agreement for a single student would be used as a model in developing a
   formal institutional agreement for future students. Jointly conferred degrees are
   routinely done in Europe to provide cooperative research opportunities and an
   employment advantage for the student. Although the degree would be jointly
   conferred, Mr. Grosset would meet all University of Florida requirements for the Ph.D.
   degree.

   Council members discussed the logic of approving an individualized agreement rather
   than tabling the issue until a general policy template could be submitted to address all
   jointly conferred degrees. Although the process to obtain approval for an individualized
   agreement is time intensive, some Council members believed that it provides a good test
   case to identify potential problems before establishing a standardized agreement for the
   university. Additional questions were raised about how a jointly conferred degree
   enhances the academic experience and benefits the University of Florida.

Because of the unique nature of this proposal and the precedent it would set for other
agreements, the Council approved the proposal in a 4-1 vote and requests that this
proposal be added to the UCC agenda for comment and then forwarded to the Faculty
Senate as an action item.
III. INFORMATION ITEM

The combined B.S./M.S. degree program in chemical engineering was administratively approved by the Graduate School and will be forwarded to the University Curriculum Committee as an information item for the graduate degree and as an action item for the undergraduate degree.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. The Graduate Council suggested that the Graduate Curriculum Committee be invited to Council meetings.

2. Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt requested the Council’s participation in a review of the UF Constitution to make suggestions to the Faculty Senate for revisions.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.