Dr. Winfred Phillips, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. The minutes of the December 13, 2001, Graduate Council meeting were approved as written.

2. Dr. Mahendrarajah Nimalendran from the College of Business Administration, Dr. Alex Trindade from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Dr. Donald Hearn and Dr. Stanislav Uryasev from the College of Engineering presented a proposal for an interdisciplinary concentration in quantitative finance. The academic purpose of the concentration is to provide substantial expertise and expand the research options in several disciplines related to quantitative finance, while pooling resources to organize the teaching and funding activities.

Students admitted to a PhD program in any of the participating departments are eligible to pursue the concentration. The financial support and the supervisory committee chair will come from the home department with at least one faculty on the committee from another participating department, for a minimum of four members. Course work will satisfy department requirements, supplemented by the courses from participating departments to fulfill the concentration.

The program will be administered by a committee consisting of one member from each department nominated by the chair of the department. The committee will appoint a chair for a three-year term. The Council approved the proposal unanimously.

3. Dr. Winfred Phillips, Chair, appointed the nominating committee consisting of retiring members for the Graduate Council election. Dr. Gijs Bosman, Dr. Dawn Bowers, Dr. Bob Kennedy, Dr. Jill Peterson, and Ms. Jaimee Perez will compose a list of at least six nominees from the Graduate Faculty to present at the March meeting.
II. INFORMATION ITEM

The joint JD/MS in materials science and engineering degree program was administratively approved by the Graduate School and forwarded to the University Curriculum Committee as an action item for the professional degree component. Effective Spring 2002.

III. DISCUSSION ITEM

The Council members discussed whether to table consideration of future program proposals until the Task Force on the Future of the University of Florida concludes its review. Dr. Winfred Phillips affirmed the need to conduct Council business as usual.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.