MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
December 18, 2003
1:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Winfred Phillips, Chair; Dr. James Algina; Dr. Russell Bauer; Dr. Richard Condit; Dr. Thomas Crisman; Dr. Robert Holt; Dr. Ann Horgas-Marsiske; Dr. James Jones; Dr. Christiana Leonard; Dr. Richard Romano; Dr. David Tanner

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Jeffrey Adler; Dr. Marjorie Hoy; Dr. Jose Principe; Mr. Bill Radunovich

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Paul Borson, Dr. Steve Dodd, Mr. Steve Pritz

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

Dr. Winfred Phillips, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. The minutes of the November 20, 2003, Graduate Council meeting were approved unanimously with a minor correction to a degree name.

2. Dr. Paul Borson and Dr. Steve Dodd from the Department of Exercise and Sport Sciences presented the proposal to streamline the degrees as part of reorganization in the College of Health and Human Performance. The Master of Science in Exercise and Sport Sciences (thesis) degree and the Master of Exercise and Sport Sciences (nonthesis) degree would be combined as a Master of Science degree (thesis with a nonthesis option). The major of Exercise and Sport Sciences would be listed with the other university MS degrees and fall under the same requirements and regulations. The proposal included sun-setting the concentration of sport management. Additional the 1) combined BS/MS program, 2) concurrent master’s degree programs with MBA or MS in Business Administration-Management, and 3) joint professions/graduate program with Law will not be applicable to students in the remaining ESS concentrations. The Council approved the proposal unanimously, effective Spring 2004.

II. DISCUSSION ITEM

The Council members discussed the composition of the supervisory committee and the role of the external member. It was noted that the primary function of the external member is to represent the university and to ensure that the process works
appropriately for the student. The perception by many students and faculty has evolved to a view of the external member as someone who brings an interdisciplinary expertise rather than serving as an impartial member. As a result, there has been some confusion and attempts by departments to request that faculty with courtesy or affiliate appointments be allowed to serve as the external member. There is also confusion between Human Resources appointments and Graduate Faculty appointments, with use of the courtesy and affiliate titles. These are two separate appointments. Faculty may have an HR status without having Graduate Faculty status. In this case, affiliate or courtesy faculty may serve as the external member. However, if the department votes to approve Graduate Faculty status, then the faculty member cannot serve as the external committee member for students in the department. The Council made no change to the current policy regarding the supervisory committee structure but asked that the language in the Graduate Catalog be consistent with the language in the Graduate Council Policy Manual.

III. INFORMATION ITEM

Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt will present the proposal to sun-set the nonthesis Master of Health Science Education degree to the Faculty Senate at their December meeting. This proposal was approved by the Council at the November meeting.

Dr. Winfred Phillips and Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt informed the Council about the National Research Council (NRC) report, "Research Doctorate Programs in the United States" based on institutional surveys. It is considered the most prestigious of its kind and is published every ten years. This year the NRC has been determining the methodology and taxonomy for the next study, which will be conducted in 2004 and published in 2005. The Graduate School has prepared a draft document with the NRC taxonomy and the UF doctoral majors and concentrations assigned to the appropriate categories for colleges to review. Meetings will be held in the spring with the deans, department chairs, and graduate coordinators to finalize the category assignments. In the draft, some programs are listed in multiple NRC fields because the program fits in more than one category. The taxonomy is particularly challenging for interdisciplinary programs. However, for the study, a program may only be in one category. The Graduate School is monitoring progress on the study and will coordinate the University's data collection for the survey at the appropriate time.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.