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

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. The minutes of the February 19, 2004, Graduate Council meeting were approved with a correction to the attendance. There was no March meeting.

2. Dr. Jill Varnes, Dr. Bertha Cato, and Dr. Ruth Alexander from the College of Health and Human Performance presented a proposal to migrate the concentration in sport management within exercise and sport sciences to a Master of Science major offered by the Department of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism. This concentration, established in 1990, has grown to an enrollment of 264 graduate students. This growth reflects a societal change and disciplinary maturation by internships, active research, and employment opportunities. The major of sport management 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. The MS degree will be offered as thesis or nonthesis option. The Council approved the proposal unanimously, effective Fall 2004. Students in progress will be given an option to receive the MS with a major of sport management or the Master of Exercise and Sport Science with a concentration in sport management until the end of spring 2006 term.

II. DISCUSSION ITEM

1. Dr. Winfred Phillips introduced the topic of journal access for discussion. Publishing is an integral part of the research and academic enterprise and is required for tenure,
promotion, and merit raises. It is believed that access to journals should be free and widely available; however, it is difficult to manage the peer review process without cost. There are few successful journals and those that are successful are becoming increasingly expensive. Is this a pressing issue? Although the Council believed that it is an important issue, they did not favor a boycott, as some other institutions have favored. Rather, the Council recommended that earnest negotiations be conducted with publishers regularly for fair and reasonable rates.

III. INFORMATION ITEM

1. Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt announced that a health insurance subsidy of $400 will be provided to students on appointment beginning in Fall 2004 as part of the salary and benefits package for graduate assistants and fellows. Students who are eligible for this benefit include Graduate Assistants, Teaching Assistants, Research Assistants and Fellows. To be eligible, the student must be enrolled in a graduate degree program, on an appointment through Academic Personnel, appropriately registered, and appointed for 0.25 FTE or greater for a particular semester. Administrative procedures have not been finalized.

2. The Graduate Faculty will vote in April for new Graduate Council members to serve for the 2004-2007 term. The new members will be invited as guests to the May meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.