MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
January 18, 2007
1:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Chair; Dr. Jane Brockmann,
Dr. Kenneth Campbell, Dr. Eileen Fennell, Ms. Cynthia Gomez,
Dr. Abraham Hartzema, Dr. Linda Hon, Dr. Jeffrey Needell,
Dr. Betty Smocovitis, Dr. Christopher Stanton, Dr. Colin Sumners

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Nicholas Comerford, Dr. Bridget Franks,
Dr. Panagote Pardalos, Dr. Dietmar Siemann,

GUESTS PRESENT: Ms. Sherry Deist; Dr. Selcuk Erenguc, Dr. David Hackett,
Ms. Mary Ann Hagler

STAFF PRESENT: Prof. Laurence Alexander, Dr. Karen Bradley, Ms. Gann Enholm,
Mr. Gary Hartge, Ms. Anne Taylor

I. ACTION ITEMS


2. Proposal to add a Non-Thesis Option to the Master of Arts degree in Religion.
   Dr. David Hackett presented the proposal. Nationally, it is rare for students to be
   admitted directly to PhD programs in religion. A non-thesis option is important for those
   students who require a broader background before they enter a PhD program. It was
   noted that history has a non-thesis option. A non-thesis paper, based on primary sources
   and of a quality that is nearly publishable, is required. Successful completion of this
   assignment lets faculty determine if the student has the ability to undertake doctoral

3. Proposal to modify the jointly conferred MBA with two international partners.
   The proposal for a jointly conferred MBA with three partners (UF, Aston Business
   School, and Vlerick Leuven Gent Management School) was approved at the November
   16, 2006 Graduate Council meeting. However, after November 16, Aston notified UF
   that they cannot participate in jointly conferred degrees. Participation requires changes at
   the English government level. The revised proposal presented by Dr. Selcuk Erenguc was
   for a jointly conferred degree between UF and one international partner, Vlerick Leuven
   Gent Management School. The curriculum and travel scheme will remain the same, and
   all three universities will participate. For UF and Vlerick students, Aston will provide a
   document that says they participated in Aston coursework. Aston students will receive
   the MBA degree from Aston. Dr. Gerhardt reminded the Council that the Provost is still
   evaluating the funding model. Approved: unanimously. Start date: Spring 2007 after
   Provost review.
II. INFORMATION ITEM

1. **Appoint Nominating Committee for Graduate Council.** In the past, the Nominating Committee consisted of those retiring Council members. The criteria for Council nomination include graduate faculty status at the associate professor or professor level. The nomination slate should try to get widespread participation to assure that a variety of perspectives are represented. The committee will receive a list of those who have previously served on Council. The suggestion was made to ask the graduate faculty at large to recommend nominees. It was noted that because of shared governance, the composition and appointment process to Graduate Council may change. The new committee will be: Dr. Kenneth Campbell, Dr. Nicholas Comerford, Ms. Cynthia Gomez, Dr. Linda Hon, Dr. Dietmar Siemann, and Dr. Colin Sumners.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 P.M.