MINUTES
GRADUATE COUNCIL
September 20, 2012
1:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Kenneth Gerhardt, Chair; Dr. Michael Annable, Dr. Mary Ann Ferguson, Dr. Ellen Martin, Dr. Heather McAuslane, Dr. Panagote Pardalos, Dr. Joyce Stechmiller, Dr. Robert Westin, Ms. Rhonda Williams (GSC)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Arthur Edison, Dr. Amir Erez, Dr. Christopher Janelle, Dr. Carole Kimberlin, Dr. Lisa McElwee-White

GUESTS PRESENT: Dr. Chris Baylis (Medicine), Dr. Tim Brophy (Institutional Assessment), Mr. Rick Bryant (Admissions), Dr. Peggy Carr (Design, Construction and Planning), Dr. Maria Gurucharri (Design, Construction and Planning), Ms. MaryAnn Hagler (Registrar), Dr. Stephanie Hanson (Public Health and Health Professions), Dr. Whitney Krueger (Public Health and Health Professions), Dr. Ken Nanni (Division of Continuing Education), Dr. Andrew Ogram (Agricultural and Life Sciences), Dr. Mickie Swisher (Agricultural and Life Sciences)

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Karen Bradley (recording), Ms. Rimjhim Banerjee, Ms. Stacy Wallace

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 P.M.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS
1. Dr. Gerhardt welcomed Council for the first meeting of the academic year. All members introduced themselves.

II. ACTION ITEMS
1. Minutes from the May 17, 2012 Graduate Council meeting. Motion: approved unanimously.

2. Proposal from the College of Medicine for a certificate in Medical Physiology with specialization in Cardiovascular/Renal Physiology. Dr. Chris Baylis explained that this distance learning certificate builds upon an existing basic course with 3 advanced courses based on faculty expertise. Council asked whether the distance delivery model would use the recently announced Coursera platform. Certificates are posted to the transcript and do not use the Coursera model. UF students in other colleges besides Medicine are welcome to earn this certificate. Motion: approved unanimously. Effective date: Fall 2012.

3. Proposal from the College of Design, Construction and Planning for a 4+1 Combined Degree in Landscape Architecture. The standard combined undergraduate/graduate degree template shares 12 credits of a 30 credit master’s program. The master’s degree is intact; it is the undergraduate degree that uses some of the graduate courses to fulfill requirements. Dr. Peggy Carr and Dr. Maria Gurucharri explained that this degree is modeled on the existing 4+1 in Urban and Regional Planning, whereby 21 credits are shared in a 52 credit program. Motion: approved unanimously. Effective date: Spring 2013.

4. Proposal from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences for a certificate in Personal and Family Financial Planning. Dr. Mickie Swisher explained that the Certified Financial Planner (CFP) professional designation has a specific set of coursework that this certificate fulfills. There is quite a bit
of interest from UF graduate students and external parties. The delivery methods are both on-campus and distance. The corrected course numbers will be given to the Graduate School for the permanent file. Motion: approved unanimously. Effective date: Spring 2013.

5. Proposal from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences for a certificate in Nonprofit Leadership. Dr. Mickie Swisher indicated there is a lot of demand from people outside the major, as well as external to UF. The 4 courses of the certificate are identical to the core courses of the concentration. Delivery is both on-campus and distance. Motion: approved unanimously. Effective date: Spring 2013.

6. Proposal from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences for a certificate in Biodegradation and Bioremediation. Dr. Andrew Ogram indicated this is the first of several certificates from the Department of Soil and Water Sciences, since the thrust of the faculty expertise is in environmental issues. The intended audience is non-traditional students/working professionals. Motion: approved unanimously. Effective date: Spring 2013.

7. Proposal from the College of Education for a certificate in Postsecondary Learning Support (PLuS). Dr. Mary Anne Steinberg was not present, nor was there any discussion. Motion: approved unanimously. Effective date: Spring 2013.

8. Proposal from the College of Public Health and Health Professions for credit hour and name changes in the certificate in Emerging Infectious Disease Research. Dr. Whitney Krueger and Dr. Stephanie Hanson explained that the original certificate has been in place since 2010. The decrease in credits, from 12 to 9, is accomplished by removing one of the 3 credit on-line elective courses. The title change to OneHealth further emphasizes this important concept in public health. Motion: approved unanimously. Effective date: Spring 2013.

III. INFORMATION ITEMS
1. Ph.D. program profile. Dr. Ken Gerhardt shared with Council some ideas for templates that will be used to help prospective students better understand programs’ selectivity, yield, demographics, and completion/time-to-degree.

2. Discuss student learning outcomes and assessment methods for graduate programs’ approval and tracking. Dr. Tim Brophy discussed the importance of certificate SLOs for SACS compliance. He explained some of processes that are being used to track and monitor them, as well as the Assessment Planning Process.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS
None.

The meeting adjourned at 2:23pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 18, 2012