

## AGENDA

# Graduate Council & Graduate Curriculum Committee

PURPOSE: To advise the Graduate Dean on matters of graduate education including curriculum, policy, degree programs and program development, graduate faculty status, and special projects as needed.

---

November 12, 2010

Present: Jeff Barnes (with David Tuft's proxy), Bill Byrnes, Carl Franklin, Rick Lambson, John Allred, Christine Byrnes, Nicole Funderburk, Kelly King, Matt Barton (then Jon Smith carried his proxy)

Absent: David Tufte, David Lund, Lee Lovell, Matt Neves, Tony Pellegini, Bart Reynolds

### I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Bill noted we did not have a majority of the 10 members of the council present. Six faculty members constitute a quorum. However, since Matt Neves indicated his vote preference on the curricular items, at least these items can be approved. No other action items may be approved at this meeting.**

### II. ACTION ITEMS

1. See Consent and Substantive curricular agenda for Nov. 12. **All Consent and Substantive items approved.**
2. Policy 6.45 Graduate Faculty – **Discussed, but not voted on.**
  - These changes were initiated by David Lund.
  - This version has the latest wording, corrections, etc. The changed items are in bold.
  - Designation of the terminal degree in Political Science has been taken care of.
  - Jon Smith: There is concern that certain specialists would not be able to serve on committees, but that requirement could be waived for special cases. There are instructors who don't have a masters degree, but may have the expertise to be an associate.
  - F2 doesn't say when to produce the review. Do they submit their FAAR to the director?
  - Does F2 only apply to new hires?
  - If someone is eligible are they automatically put in the pool to be evaluated for graduate faculty? Do faculty members have the right to turn down becoming graduate faculty?
  - Is there an accreditation issue in the College Education requiring a certain number of graduate faculty and non-graduate faculty?
  - Graduate faculty status should be something that faculty members need to request. The burden should be on the faculty member to prove they qualify, not the dean.
  - Would it make sense to make this a part of the FAAR process, adding the question "Is this member qualified to be graduate faculty?" Otherwise deans have to review this paperwork both during FAAR process and in the Spring.

- Jeff Barnes – wondering if it has to do with ensuring that someone at the end of year 3 doesn't lose eligibility and have it jeopardize accreditation.
- **Bill Byrnes, with the approval of the grad council members present, tabled the policy until David Lund can address these issues at the Dec 7 meeting.**

3. Other actions items?

None

### III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- (Nicole) See Handout - Update on peer institution data regarding English proficiency requirements for international graduate students. Discuss setting graduate English proficiency standards for TOEFL and IELTS. Action? **Recommend more rigorous standards for graduate admissions.**
  - Our undergraduate and graduate admission standards for English proficiency are the same. Some schools have a higher requirement. BYU has sub score requirements; we don't, and this might be where some of our problems come from.
  - Nicole/Steve are proposing changing the undergraduate requirements at the next Deans' council.
  - Jon Smith: He felt our undergraduate language proficiency scores are not high enough. We haven't had the problem in graduate class in Communication, yet.
  - Jeff Barnes: We have had problems with this issue in the School of Business.
  - Rick Lambson: Rick asked what do the scores actually mean? Are we just moving a couple of degrees on the spectrum, or are we actually making a real difference by upping the score requirements?
  - Carl Franklin: Strongly believes that graduate school requirements should be higher than undergraduate. 550-580 for graduate if we are proposing 525 for undergraduate. What percentage will increasing the standards decrease enrollment? Can you show that the students having issues in class are the lower scores.
  - Nicole Funderburk: We need to balance the concern over decreased enrollment with concern that our students succeed in the classroom. Also need to be concerned that whatever standard is set is sensitive to the international recruiting efforts SUU is doing (China, Sargon Heinrich Global Engagement Center). Each program (graduate) can set their own standards, or we can set a minimum across the board.
  - Jon Smith: We would still want to talk to the student if they fell below the standard, and could waive it if necessary.
  - Carl Franklin: What about setting a higher requirement, but then turn the student's info over to the director for the final decision? Everyone agreed this made sense.
  - Bill Byrnes: He recommended we set our requirements to mirror some of our peer schools, as long as the director still has the ability to override it.

### IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

- List of Graduate Faculty and Associate Graduate Faculty 2010-11 (handout)
  - Bill Byrnes: will make final corrections, then handout version 8.
- Catalog copy DUE December 1 –Reminder that revisions needed
- Program Reviews
  - MPA and MSSC undergoing 3-Year Reviews – Due in December
  - College of Education program review is on hold
- **Next Graduate Council/Curriculum Committee meeting: Tuesday, Dec. 7 @ 4pm – AD 304**