



Office of Graduate Studies
2005-06 Graduate Council Actions

Graduate Council Charge: Responsible for the formulation of policies concerning the graduate programs of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh; serves as an advisory body to the Director of Graduate Admissions and Records, and the Provost and Vice Chancellor.

Graduate Council 2005-06

COBA

Dean's Representative—Don Gudmundson
College's Graduate Faculty—Mike Godfrey, Don Simons
Graduate Student—Oksana Pigina, MBA

COEHS

Dean's Representative--Michael Ford
College's Graduate Faculty—Kathryn Henn-Reinke, Curriculum and Instruction; John Lemberger, Curriculum and Instruction

COLS

Dean's Representative—Andrew Robson,
College's Graduate Faculty—Jim Koch, John Koker
Graduate Student—Grant Heller, MS-Psychology/Experimental

CON

Dean's Representative—Roxana Huebscher
College's Graduate Faculty—Jaya Jambunathan, Vicki Moss

Office of Graduate Studies

Director of Graduate Admissions and Records--Greg Wypiszynski (non-voting; ex-officio)

Dean-in-Residence—Alan Hartman, Dean, COBA

Chair of the Graduate Council—Perry Rettig, Provost's Administrative Fellow and Graduate Faculty, Human Services and Professional Leadership/COEHS

September 23, 2005 1 hour and 5 minutes

Action Items

Due to a lack of a quorum, the following in addition to other action items needed confirmation by members of the Graduate Council who were unable to attend the meeting. Greg contacted each of them electronically to determine their "vote."

I. Action Items

- A. The following Committee assignments were determined.
Executive Committee (also has authority and responsibility to hear appeals for exception to School of Graduate Studies policy): Mike Ford, Andrew Robson, Roxana Huebscher, Don Gudmundson.
Curriculum Approval Committee: Jim Koch, Mike Godfrey, Vicki Moss, John Lemberger.
Distinguished Thesis/Graduate Honors Recognition Committee: Kathryn Henn-Reinke, Don Simons, John Koker, and Jaya Jambunathan.

Graduate Faculty representative to Academic Policies Committee: Jim Koch

Greg will inform those not present of their committee assignments. Each committee will need to elect a chair.

- B. Motion/second by D. Gudmunson/J. Jambunathan to nominate Perry Rettig as Chair of the Graduate Council for Academic Year 2005-06 (1-year term). Motion passed: Yes-7; No-0; Abstain-0. Greg will contact Dr. Rettig to see if he is willing to serve as Chair. This position will be "piloted" for one year. Post-meeting note: Dr. Rettig agreed to serve as the Chair of the Graduate Council for AY 2005-06.

II. Discussion Items

- A. Outcomes of Summer 2005 (8/1/05) Planning Session
Talking points:
Graduate Studies Targeted NCA Self-Study (Ad Hoc Group membership)
An ad hoc group including Greg W., Mike Ford (COEHS), Roxana Huebscher (CON), and Greg Kleinheinz (Biology and Microbiology), has formed to be a targeted study group on graduate studies in anticipation of the 2007 NCA Reaccreditation. A graduate faculty member from COBA is needed to complete representation from all four colleges. The intent of the ad hoc group is to address concerns from the 1997 NCA Review and assist on graduate studies to the campus self-study groups.

Assessment

This is an area of attention for reaccreditation. The issue is what role do the Graduate Program Coordinators and the Graduate Council play in assessing or reviewing assessment at the graduate level. This issue needs to be examined on an ongoing basis.

Issues/Activities in Graduate Studies

Greg will apprise the Graduate Council of these during the coming year.

- B. Request to Change Degree/Program Listing on Diplomas
Greg received an inquiry from a graduate student, MS-Mathematics Education, asking why his area of study was not included on his diploma, in addition to the Master of Science degree notation. Greg consulted with the Registrar's Office. They commented that typically the official transcript is where that information is noted, as a verification of coursework. This is the case for both undergraduate and graduate diplomas. Greg also noted that the only comprehensive UW university listing the area of study on the diploma is UW-Stout. Greg will take the comments from the Graduate Council and the Graduate Program Coordinators and pursue the feasibility of revising the diploma. He noted that there would likely need to be university governance approval at multiple levels.
- C. It is time for the biennial printing of the Graduate Bulletin. At the request of the Graduate Program Coordinators, Greg will explore if a virtual 2006-2008 Graduate Bulletin is feasible.

III. Information Items

- A. Ad Hoc Program Review Group Survey
An Ad Hoc Review Group on Program Review has been formed to study the university's program review process. Greg responded to their survey on behalf of graduate studies and also requested that the discussion include the Graduate Program Coordinators and the Graduate Council. This was discussed at the Sept 2005 meetings of both groups. Greg will forward the comments from the Graduate Council and the Graduate Program Coordinators to the Ad Hoc Study Group.
- B. The following policy items might need review and action for inclusion in the 2006-2008 Graduate Bulletin.
 - 1. Transfer/Waiver Courses (p. 21, Graduate Bulletin)
 - 2. Final Term Senior (p. 27, Graduate Bulletin)

3. Time to Degree Completion Extensions
In the case of “time to degree,” Greg has noticed a more flexible approach by the graduate programs; perhaps the policy needs to be revised.
- C. Status Update: Enrollment Management & Student Support and Academic Program & Student Outcomes Assessment Plans: Greg reported that there have been drafts of the plans. These drafts will be presented to the university community this fall for review, discussion and adoption by the end of the academic year.

October 20, 2005 1 hour and 5 minutes

I. Action Items

- A. Greg requested that the Council’s certification of the electronic ballot regarding action items from the previous GC meeting be added as an agenda item.
- B. Certification of Graduate Council Co-Chair
Perry Rettig has been elected Graduate Faculty Co-Chair of the Graduate Council. This is a “pilot appointment” for one year, 2005-06. Greg distributed the following proposed “Identification and Assessment of Role” of the Graduate Faculty Co-Chair to the Graduate Council.

Categories of Involvement:

Representing the Graduate Council at the following meetings: Provost’s Administrative Staff; Chancellor’s Administrative Staff; Faculty Senate; Senate of Academic Staff; Academic Policies Committee meetings

Processes

Review of Minutes of the following meetings: Faculty Senate, Senate of Academic Staff; Academic Policies Committee; Graduate Council; Curriculum Approval Committee; Graduate Program Coordinators; various departments/graduate programs
Counsel and advise the Director of Graduate Studies, Curriculum Approval Committee, Graduate Programs, and others regarding graduate academic and curricular matters.

Procedural

Review and help sent Graduate Council agendas
Co-chair Graduate Council meetings
Attend Curriculum Approval Committee meetings as appropriate or requested
Attend Graduate Program Coordinators meetings as appropriate or requested.

Greg and Perry will provide a mid-year report (around the beginning of the 2006 Spring Semester) to the Graduate Council regarding to-date feasibility, necessity and benefits of the Co-Chair position. The following “Evaluation Criteria for Involvement” will be used.

Frequency of involvement

Degree of participation

Level and type of contribution to activity

Necessity of involvement

Measures (need to quantify): None/Some/Moderate/Extensive

Comments/Questions:

Question: Is the Co-Chair a voting member of the Graduate Council?

Response: At this time, no; the Co-Chair is an ex-officio member. If the Co-Chair is to be a voting member, the Graduate Studies Bylaws would need to be changed.

The Co-Chair will not be involved in the daily operations of the Office of Graduate Studies.

Question: How will the Co-Chair’s attendance at APC (Academic Policies Committee) meetings be different than the Graduate Faculty representative to the APC?

Response: The CAC member assigned to attend the APC meetings will continue to regularly attend for the GC and CAC at the APC meeting. The Co-Chair will attend APC meetings as needed or requested to provide additional support or perspective for graduate education items. Occasionally the Co-Chair might attend for the CAC representative if the latter cannot attend the APC meeting.

- C. Minutes of 9/23/2005 GC meeting accepted as presented.
- D. Graduate Honors criteria submitted by Public Affairs (MPA) and Special Education (MSE/Special Education). Special Education criteria approved. Vote on MPA criteria tabled until further information on percentage of top graduating students in the program can be obtained.
- E. Due to a lack of a quorum at the 9/23/2005 GC meeting, the following action items sent to the GC members via an email ballot. Greg identified that all items were approved by a quorum and majority of voting Council members. The Council approved by consensus certifying the ballot. Unless otherwise noted, all GC members voted in the email ballot.
 - 1. Minutes of the 5/4/2005 GC meeting approved

2. Election of Perry Rettig as Graduate Council Co-Chair for AY 2005-06, pilot year for this position (only GC members not attending 9/23/2005 GC meeting voted).
3. Reading Education graduate honors criteria approved.
4. Graduate Council Committee assignments approved:
Executive Committee: Mike Ford, Don Gudmundson, Roxana Huebscher, Andrew Robson, Oksana Pigina
Curriculum Approval Committee: Jim Koch, Mike Godfrey, Vicki Moss, John Lemberger, Grant Heller
Distinguished Thesis/Graduate Honors Recognition Committee: Kathryn Henn-Reinke, Don Simons, John Koker, Jaya Jambunathan

II. Discussion Items

A. Curriculum Approval Committee (CAC)—Mike Godfrey, Chair

The CAC has approved the following course and program actions on behalf of the Graduate Council.

1. MA-English, add new requirement of ENGL 581, Foundations of Literary Criticism, to be taken in a graduate student's first semester.
Comments: Substitutes a standard course (581) for essentially a topics course (703). ENGL 581 would standardize the training given to graduate students in the MA-English program.
2. BIOL 710, Biostatistics, new course. Comments: Course will provide students with the requisite statistical knowledge for completing a thesis. The Dept may need to increase sections of PSYCH 203 (prerequisite to BIOL 710, or equivalent, or consent of instructor).
3. MS-Biology, Eliminate BIOL 709 and 769 as required courses in the graduate degree program's plans of study; add BIOL 710 as a requirement for both plans of study.
4. Global MBA program (new)
5. College of Nursing—plan for the RN obtaining a BSN (Collaborative Degree Program) to take some MSN required courses as BSN electives that can also apply to a UWO MSN degree. Comment: This program addresses a critical shortage of nurses in our state without increasing resources (staff).

The CAC is currently considering the following:

1. MA-English, change application deadline for admission from Sept 15 and March 15 to March 15th only.
2. Collaborative Master of Social Work Program; Removal of the GRE as an admission requirement. Note: This is a collaborative graduate degree program with UW-Green Bay, and GB has already approved the action. Both UW Oshkosh and UWGB grant MSW degrees.

Discussion above item: The question was asked, “Why is the GRE being eliminated? How does this affect the quality of the graduate student pool in the MSW program, or any program that does not require a graduate entrance exam?” After discussion concluded, consensus that the issue of what should be the standards for general admission by which applicants are admitted to UW Oshkosh graduate studies needs discussion by the Graduate Council, the Graduate Program Coordinators, and the Colleges. Mike Godfrey commented that the CAC will table its recommendation on the MSW program action. The program will be asked to provide their current admissions standards and the rationale for those standards.

- B. Graduate Summer Initiative Program (GSIP)—Greg W.
Consensus of the group was to use the GSIP funds as grant or “seed money” or support graduate education in general, e.g., marketing activities, but not to fund courses. Generally, a large portion of the fund should always remain for its intended purpose of growing summer initiatives.
- C. Graduate Enrollment Planning Strategy, Short- and Long-Term—Greg W.
Greg shared a draft of short-term activities and long-term strategies that has been provided to the Provost in response to discussion at the Chancellor’s Administrative Staff about what plans are there to reach the graduate student enrollment target. Greg emphasized again that while he can provide this sort of information as he best understands it, the University along with the graduate programs and colleges need to help define specific strategies for graduate student enrollment.
Comment: The number used for an enrollment target of graduate students should be a “gross” number, meaning GPR and non-GPR headcount be added together to determine the target that needs to be reached.

III. Information Items

Targeted NCA/HLC Mini Self-Study Team: The team has recently been finalized and will begin meeting. Members are Greg W, Mike Ford, Greg Kleinheinz, Roxana Huebscher, and Don Gudmundson.

November 18, 2005 1 hour

I. Action Items

- A. Approved October 20, 2005 Graduate Council meeting minutes

- B. Certified Graduate Faculty Marshals for Fall 2005 Commencement
Leona Dempsey, Nursing
Thomas Scofield, Education and Human Services
There are 14 voting Council members; 10 voted via web ballot all to approve both nominees. Vote certified unanimous.

- C. Approved Graduate Honors Criteria for MPA and MA-English programs.

II. Discussion Items

A. Curriculum Approval Committee (CAC)—Mike Godfrey, Chair

- 1. Clarification of Processing Regarding MSW GRE requirement (Greg W.)
After the GC meeting, G. Wypiszynski's understanding was that once the CAC further reviewed comments from the MSW program regarding the program's request to drop the GRE as an admission requirement, the result of the CAC decision was to be forwarded to the APC. The CAC voted to approve (4-1) the request but there was some confusion whether the MSW item was to come back to the full Council for more discussion before the CAC took a final vote. After discussion it was determined G. Wypiszynski's actions were correct.

J. Koch reported that the APC voted unanimously to approve the MSW program's request to drop the GRE requirement but said that the APC supported that there would be further discussion by the Graduate Council and others about graduate admissions standards.

- 2. Delay Processing Curriculum & Instruction Items
The C&I Dept requested that the CAC "hold" on its recommendation concerning the course actions received from C&I.

- 3. CAC/GC Comments to Academic Policies Committee
The Graduate Studies office with agreement from the CAC, APC and Provost's office, will forward any pertinent comments from the CAC regarding their actions and votes to the APC for inclusion in the APC's review of the actions.

- B. Assessment of Admissions Standards for Graduate Studies
The Council received via email a chart outlining the admissions requirements for UWO's graduate programs. A copy of the guiding principles for Admissions, Continuation and Graduation standards were also circulated. These standards are the purview of the faculty. Enrollment and budget issues should not be the only guiding factors in admissions decisions. Extensive discussion followed. Greg noted there were two key threads in today's discussion: 1) We need to articulate our philosophy of admissions standards, and 2) the graduate programs need to review and engage in discussions about how their admission standards serve their programs. Are these the two paths we want to pursue? He will ask Alan Hartman and Perry Rettig to assist him in determining how to begin reviewing the "two threads."
- C. Update to Final Term Senior Policy Change and Recent MSN Program Action
G. Wypiszynski reported that the MSN program introduced their proposal to count graduate credits toward elective credits in their BSN program to the Provost's Administrative Staff on 11/8/05. The Provost's Administrative Staff perception took a hard look at the policy (Final Term Senior) that restricts the MSN program from doing this. The discussion with the PAS was primarily about how this University policy would have to change for the MSN action to go forward. Nursing is the first graduate program to bring this policy into question. Roxie and Greg are following up for another PAS discussion on 11/22/05. There is good evidence for doing this for the nursing program. If in the future there are other programs that may want to do this, a revised University policy will need to be in place.
- D. GSIP – Status of Process and Fund
The provost will be at Dec 5, 2005, GC meeting to discuss this at more length. The fund for the GSIP is under intense scrutiny because of the severe budget restrictions. The Council and the Coordinators and faculty need to support the need for the fund to help program initiatives, provide seed money for program development and general support graduate education. GC members who cannot attend the Dec 5, 2005, GC meeting should email or call Greg with any suggestions.
- III. Information Items
J. Koch emphasized that the need to officially adopt a dual-level course rubric may be coming up. G. Wypiszynski will contact M. Godfrey to figure out how to bring this to the CAC for review and official adoption.

December 5, 2005 1 hour and 5 minutes

I. Action Items

A quorum of Graduate Council members was not present. The consensus of those in attendance was to accept the minutes of the 11/18/2005 GC meeting as distributed. Those GC members unable to attend the meeting will be asked to vote on this item via e-mail.

II. Discussion Items

A. Graduate Summer Initiatives Program (GSIP) Status of Funding

Provost Lane Earns stated that, for budgetary reasons, he needs to transfer funds from the GSIP account to cover institutional “short-fall” for the 2005 Summer Session (\$30K) and marketing of 2006 summer session (\$30K). He noted that he supports the purposes of the GSIP and has no intention of changing the funding formula. However, the Graduate Council needs to develop a process to use the annual allocation on a regular basis.

Greg will forward the UW System Board of Regents policy creating the GSIP to the Graduate Council members. He will also present the original GSIP proposal, the revisions that he and Perry Rettig made, and the GC comments to Tom Sonnleitner and Lori Worm for their review and report back to the Graduate Council.

At that point, the Graduate Council and Graduate Program Coordinators need to discuss/determine the following.

1. A process for distributing the GSIP funds to graduate faculty—will need their involvement to do this.
2. A policy decision about GSIP—whether to allocate all of it each year or let the funds accrue.

B. Curriculum Approval Committee (CAC)—Mike Godfrey, Chair

The CAC is considering general information on dual-level course review and will discuss it during the interim. They will then make a recommendation to the Graduate Council. Any resulting policy will need to be distributed to the colleges for their information.

C. Update to Final Term Senior Policy Chance and Recent MSN Program Action

The Provost’s Administrative Staff group did not support counting graduate course credits at both the undergraduate and graduate levels for the RN to BSN to MSN proposal. However, the PAS supported the current practice of graduate credit counting toward fulfilling undergraduate degree requirements without applying those grad credits to a grad program. The College of Nursing will now seek approval to have the MSN program be a variable credit program to recognize

the completion of graduate credits taken for undergraduate degree requirements.

- D. Greg distributed some information from the Enrollment Management Team (EMT) concerning the Fall 2006 enrollment targets. The EMT is considering some prioritized “themes” for this activity, e.g., marketing, faculty engagement and awareness with enrollment, etc. Greg asked if there were themes under which graduate enrollment and recruiting activities could/should be included. The Council members should let him know by December 15, 2005. He will provide the themes to the EMT and share such information with the Graduate Council and the Graduate Program Coordinators.

Joint Meeting with Graduate Program Coordinators, March 9, 2006, 90 minutes

Guest: Jim Simmons, President, Faculty Senate

- I. The following individuals were introduced
 - A. Freddie Staerkel will be the Graduate Program Coordinator for the Master of Social Work program.
 - B. Sarah Anderson, a project appointment in the Office of Graduate Studies for the past seven years, has recently been hired as a permanent classified staff member in Graduate Studies.

- II. Action Items
 - A. Minutes of Dec 5, 2005, GC meeting approved.
 - B. Following graduate faculty nominations approved to serve as Graduate Faculty Marshals for the Spring 2006 Commencement ceremony.
 - 1. Stephen Bentivenga and Carolyn Wells, COLS
 - 2. Jaya Jambunathan, Nursing
 - 3. Don Gudmundson, COBA

- III. Curriculum Approval Committee Items

Mike Godfrey, CAC Chair, reported that the most pressing issue facing the CAC is the dual course rubric and how to evaluate dual-level courses. Course actions sent to the CAC over the holiday break, winter interim and through now have received the appropriate review and processing.

- IV. Discussion Items
 - A. Reactions to Recent Announcements from the Graduate Studies office
 - B. Comments by Jim Simmons, President of the Faculty Senate, regarding the “outdated” status of the Graduate Studies Bylaws and the categories of graduate faculty as defined in the Bylaws.
 - C. Discussion by those present.

V. Next Steps

- A. Alan Hartman will work with those GC members who “volunteer” to restructure the Graduate Studies Bylaws, and the GSIP. These will be done by the end of the spring semester.
- B. Mike Godfrey will help conduct a review of the dual-level course rubric. He will contact the UW-River Falls authors of the dual course rubric currently being used, for more information and clarification.
- C. The HLC (NCA) Committee formed early last fall will be asked to meet to review the input compiled by Greg and sent to the HLC self-study team.
- D. The item of reviewing admissions standards as discussed by the Graduate Council in fall 2005 was taken off the table by Al Hartman who introduced this item. Other more critical activities need attention before this issue.

V. Information Items

- A. Major listed on master’s diploma
- B. Items from Council Members

VI. Pending/Future Items

Individual items not up for discussion at this time.

High Priority

Academic Amnesty--Greg recently made a decision to not exclude undergraduate credits and grades granted amnesty toward an undergraduate degree in the calculation of the overall and last 60-credits grade point average for determining admission to graduate studies. The Council will need to determine if this decision should stand or some other calculation of these grades/credits used.

Repeat Policy

Graduate Assistant Allocation and Distribution

Self-managed application process

Moderate Priority

General Admission Standards

Graduate Assistant handbook

Time to degree Extensions

Adjust Limits to Transfer Credit policy

Low Priority

Credit for prior learning

Multiple program application requirements

Repeat Policy – This is another issue that needs attention since the new policy for undergraduate students will take effect fall 2007.

Joint Meeting with Graduate Program Coordinators, April 13, 2006, 54 minutes

Guest: Lisa Danielson, Registrar

II. Action Items

- A. A quorum of Graduate Council members was not present to approve the minutes of the 3/9/2006 joint meeting of the Graduate Council and the Graduate Program Coordinators. Those GC members present at the 4/12/2006 joint meeting approved the 3/9/2006 minutes as distributed. An electronic ballot was sent to those GC members not able to attend the 4/12/2006 meeting. The response of the latter was to approve the minutes as distributed.

- B. Academic Majors printed on diplomas: An MS-Mathematics Education graduate inquired of Graduate Studies why his program area, Mathematics Education, was not included on his diploma. Greg did some research on this and also consulted with Lisa Danielson, Registrar.

Comments by Lisa D.

The Records Office has, on occasion, received such inquiries from undergraduate students. The practice at UW Oshkosh to not include the undergraduate major on undergraduate diplomas is in line with the majority of universities nationwide. The diploma is seen as a ceremonial document, a description of overall achievement, as opposed to the official transcript which is the academic description of the student's coursework. Conversely, as a consequence of listing the major on the diploma, schools do receive requests from undergraduate students to have it removed, because they are employed in an area other than their undergraduate major.

Comments by Greg W.

Through an informal poll, the majority of graduate programs in the state and elsewhere do not list the graduate student's program on the diploma. The printing company doing graduate diplomas for UW Oshkosh said that one-half of their clients do use majors on diplomas. UW-Stout and UW-Milwaukee do list graduate majors on their diplomas. An advantage of listing the graduate program on the diploma is that it creates distinction between graduate and undergraduate diplomas. Implementing this would require nominal effort and changes for Graduate Studies, but would be more involved from the Registrar's perspective. If implemented, Graduate Studies would take the "all or nothing" approach, e.g., the diplomas would list all graduate programs or none. While technically, having this as an option would not be a problem, from a continuity of practice perspective, "all or nothing" is preferable.

The following individuals present went “on record” as supporting the additional of the graduate program on the diplomas: Susan Cramer, John Lemberger, and Carol Seaman.

A suggestion was made to do an exit survey of those graduate students receiving degrees over the next year, asking them their preference.

Consensus

Based on today’s discussion, for now the graduate program will not be added to the diploma. A survey will be conducted, as suggested above.

Comment by Alan Hartman, Dean-in-Residence

Some degrees, e.g., MBA, MSW, MSN, and MSIS, are already specified on the diploma. Adding the graduate program to the diploma does not add that much value compared to the time involved in doing so. Regardless of the survey results, he opposes the idea. It is not a good use of time and may start Graduate Studies operations on a path that is not a good one.

C. Curriculum Approval Committee

The CAC continues to study the dual level course rubric issues. Jim Koch, CAC member, noted that in reviewing dual level courses, the “standard” is uncertain. Should the graduate experience in the course be compared to what would be expected in a graduate-only level course, or an acceleration of what is expected of undergraduate students.

III. Discussion Items

A. Repeat Policy

The University’s Repeat Policy has been revised and applies primarily to undergraduate students. Undergraduate students will be able to register for repeated classes at their regular registration date; they will no longer need to wait until 30 days before classes begin. However, undergraduates will only be able to repeat classes in which they received a C/D or lower grade.

Based on the above, it would follow that the graduate policy would be for B/C grades or lower. But in graduate education, a “B” is the lowest possible grade without compromising the cumulative grade point average to fall below a 3.0. The current graduate policy is that a graduate course may be repeated once for a graduate of less than B in the first and only other attempt. Permission from the graduate program coordinator is needed. There is no problem implementing the current policy, except for infrequent course control issues.

Consensus that the current graduate repeat policy is acceptable and will not be revised based upon the undergraduate policy.

B. Academic Amnesty

The University's currently Academic Amnesty policy is as follows. Transfer, re-entry, or transfer re-entry students seeking admission or readmission to UW Oshkosh who have not earned a baccalaureate degree may be eligible for exclusion of grades, not credits or courses, earned five or more years prior to their current term of admission as a degree seeking student. This policy does not apply to graduate programs.

If Academic Amnesty is granted, all courses and grades taken during an identified academic term(s) five years before admission/readmission will continue to appear on the student's record. If multiple terms are included in the granting of Academic Amnesty, the terms must be continuous. If granted, the grades of all classes in that term(s) will be excluded in the official GPA. The computation of the student's official cumulative GPA will not include the excluded grades. Credit hours earned with a 1.0 (D) or better may be used to satisfy degree requirements, even though they are not included in the student's official GPA.

The issue is whether graduate admissions should include or exclude amnesty courses in the calculation of the undergraduate gpa for graduate admission evaluation. At some future point, Greg will draft a statement of this practice for wide distribution.

Consensus

Continue the current graduate policy of including all undergraduate grades in graduate admission evaluations. The policy does not need to be considered again by the GC or the GPCs.

IV. Information Items

- A. The Graduate Studies Bylaws Revision is in-progress. Recently the College of Letters and Science Faculty Committee contacted the Office of Graduate Studies, as there will be two COLS graduate faculty vacancies for AY 2006-07. Initially the Faculty Committee interpreted academic staff as not eligible to serve as Graduate Council members, based on information in the Faculty/Academic Staff Handbook regarding the composition of standing committees. However, they later realized that the Graduate Studies Bylaws should not be superceded, and all COLS graduate faculty as defined by the GS Bylaws would be eligible to serve.
- B. The review of the Graduate Summer Initiative Program is "in progress."
- C. HLC (NCA)—In-progress
- D. The Graduate Assistant salary base for AY 06-07 will be increased by the 3.02%

from the state's pay plan. There will likely be another adjustment for 06-07.

E. Items from Council Members--none

VI. Pending/Future Items

Individual items not up for discussion at this time.

High Priority

- Graduate Assistant Allocation and Distribution
- Self-managed application process

Moderate Priority

- Review of Graduate Studies operations; Services offerings in the future
- Graduate Assistant handbook—Major expansion and revisions
- Time to degree Extensions
- Adjust Limits to Transfer Credit policy

Low Priority

- Credit for prior learning
- Multiple program application requirements