

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

December 10, 2003

100 KRESGE LIBRARY

Approved:

Present: Ronald Sudol, Lisa Hawley, Vincent Khapoya, Kathleen Moore, Mildred Merz, Sherri Oden, Claire Rammel, Darlene Schott-Baer, Ishwar Sethi, Kris Thompson. **Absent:** Mohinder Parkash **Staff:** Lynette Folken

Call to Order

This meeting was convened at 2:10 p.m. by Ronald Sudol, Associate Provost.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The MOTION to approve the minutes of November 12, 2003 as corrected was made, Seconded and Passed, unanimously.

II. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Budget Ron Sudol reported that he had no information to share about the budget, other than a 5% cut in higher education state funding. He reported universities could qualify for a 3% cut, if they can hold tuition below a certain level. Claire Rammel reported that early in January there are two budget retreats planned. The first retreat in the budget review process is a support meeting for the administrative groups. Because these groups have limited resources and no revenue funds, their units will be examined to see if and how services might be consolidated. The second retreat will be with all members of the academic council, where budget proposals will be presented for each of the units within Academic Affairs. Mr. Sudol reminded all Graduate Council members that we have to be vigilant to ensure the academic quality of graduate programs. Commencement Participation for Doctoral Students Ron Sudol reported many faculty expressed their concerns during Senate that the new academic calendar was developed to accommodate commencement dates. Mr. Sudol said that he had been on the committee for scheduling the ceremony and explained some of the problems involved in finding an acceptable date. In the end, he reminded those present that this is a ceremony that revolves around the students and their families, and the committee had to settle on a date that was most convenient for that constituency. Claire Rammel indicated many graduate faculty advisors have raised concerns that the printer deadline for publishing the commencement program are preventing doctoral students from participating in the ceremony. The Provost Office is responsible for the publication of the commencement program. It is their printing deadlines for two semesters that conflict with the submission deadline for doctoral dissertations. It was decided that the matter should be discussed further with the Provost Office. Mr. Sudol then opened a discussion about awarding graduate certificates, in addition to diplomas, during the commencement ceremony. Brian Goslin, School of Health Sciences, would like two of his graduate certificate students to participate in commencement. Vince Khapoya asked if this is the practice elsewhere. In reply, Claire Rammel said that she was not aware of any institutions that allow this. Commencement is a ceremony (with regalia) to confer degrees. Some universities hold separate ceremonies in the schools and colleges. She suggested perhaps these individual ceremonies might be an appropriate forum for recognizing certificate awards. Mr. Khapoya asked about the practice for people who are awarded degrees with certificates. Claire Rammel replied that only the degree name is printed in the commencement program and

conferred at commencement; while both the degree and the certificate are listed on the student's transcript. In summation, Mr. Sudol stated that the main purpose of commencement is to award degrees. Graduate certificates are more professional in nature, relating to careers and licensing. He will reply to Mr. Goslin's request, expressing a lack of support from the Graduate Council. Mr. Khapoya proceeded to ask the council to consider a change to the doctoral listings in the commencement program. At present, only the title of the dissertation is listed. He suggested that, as key information, the name of the student's mentor and the name of the student's baccalaureate institution should be included. With the council's support, Mr. Sudol said that the issue would be taken to the Provost Office for discussion.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

Second Reading - Post Master's Certificate for Adult/Gerontological Nurse Practitioner

MOTION was made, seconded and passed to APPROVE the proposed Post Master's Certificate for Adult/Gerontological Nurse Practitioner, contingent upon updates to the admission requirements.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

First Reading – Master of Science in Nursing/Acute Care Admissions for the MSN/Adult Health were put on hold last year, because of low enrollment and subsequent budgetary reasons. Dean Linda Thompson has reported that Henry Ford Hospital has shown an interest in an acute care program. She has suggested the reactivation of the old MSN in Nursing/Adult Health program, with some minor revisions, including changing the name of the track to Master of Science in Nursing/Acute Care. Henry Ford is very interested, but insists that all the clinical courses would be in the field of acute care. The proposed program would prepare an acute care (adult) clinical nurse specialist prepared to practice in the hospital setting. The acute care program would be offered as an off-campus incentive program. Formation of a minimum cohort will be required before specialty courses can be offered. Students will take the foundation and clinical core courses with the students in the existing Family Nurse Practitioner, Adult/Gerontological Nurse Practitioner and Nursing Education programs. In reply to a question asked about budgetary implications, Ms. Schott-Baer stated that the program would be self-supporting. It would need 15 students to break even on the specialty courses.

MOTION was made, seconded and passed to WAIVE the second reading.

MOTION was made, seconded and passed to APPROVE the proposed Master of Science in Nursing/Acute Care. First Reading – Graduate Nomenclature Claire Rammel provided a history on the need for the proposed graduate nomenclature. Discussion followed. Darlene Schott-Baer suggested that "certificates" be added to the list. Ms. Rammel noted the connection between nomenclature and financial aid eligibility. It was suggested that eligibility of financial aid should be included in proposal guidelines. The topic of nomenclature will be brought to the council again, after some of the members have taken it to their faculty for review.

V. GOOD AND WELFARE

Claire Rammel reported that she has another meeting scheduled with the legal department to review the most recent version of the graduate assistantship letter. This latest version is similar to

that used at other universities where the graduate assistantship letter is comprised of two documents: a congratulatory cover letter and a separate contractual piece.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 14, 2004.