

## **GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES**

**January 18, 2006**

Approved: February 21, 2005

**Present:** Tom Blume, Kris Kobus, Millie Merz, Mohinder Parkash, Claire Rammel, Darlene Schott-Baer, Joe Shively, Meir Shillor

**Absent:** David Downing, Lorenzo Smith, Kris Thompson

**Guest:** Donna Free

**Staff:** Lynette Folken

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was convened at 2:08 p.m. by Darlene Schott-Baer, Vice Chair.

### **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

No minutes to approve.

### **II. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **MBA/JD Partnership Program**

Donna Free presented the MBA/JD Partnership program for School of Business Administration. She indicated all degree requirements of TMCLS and OU will be unaffected by this program. Both institutions will continue to admit students, conduct graduation audits, and exercise control over their respective academic programs, independently. Both parties acknowledge and will inform prospective applicants that admission to either the MBA degree or the JD degree does not guarantee admission to the other degree.

TMCLS and OU agree to comply independently with all applicable accrediting body standards and requirements.

Individuals who plan to participate in this program may apply for admission simultaneously or sequentially. They are encouraged to do so in a manner which permits timely completion of both programs and which meets other requirements of the agreement. TMCLS can grant transfer credit from OU for purposes of this program only if a student begins and completes an eligible OU transfer course after matriculation at TMCLS.

Students who have matriculated in these joint programs may begin taking courses in the second program according to the following provisions: A TCMLS JD student may begin taking MBA courses at OU after satisfactorily completing 27 credit hours at TCMLS. An OU MBA student may begin taking JD courses after satisfactorily completing 0 credit hours in the MBA program at OU.

TMCLS will accept six semester hours of credit earned with a course grade of 3.0 or higher in any combination of the following OU courses: ACC 650, Professional Issues in Accounting (3); ECN 673, International Trade and Finance (3); MGT 638, Labor Management Relations (3); MGT 660, Launching and Managing Small Businesses (3); MGT 670, Business Ethics (3); MGT 681, Special Topics in International Management (3); MIS 620, Electronic Commerce (3); MIS 641, Privacy and Intellectual Property (3); ORG 631, Human Resources Management (3); or ORG 670, International Organization Behavior and Human Resources (3). Additional courses may be determined by the TMCLS Curriculum Committee.

OU will accept six semester hours of credit earned with a course grade of 3.0 or higher in any combination of the following TMCLS courses: Civil Procedure II (3); Constitutional Law I (3); Contracts I (3); Contracts II (3); Business Organizations (3); Professional responsibility (3); Secured Transactions (3); Taxation (3); Bankruptcy (3); Business Planning (3); Federal Administrative Law (3); Sales (3) ; Alternative Dispute Resolution (2); Collective Bargaining (2); Comparative Law (2); Computer Law (2); Consumer Law (2) ; Deferred Compensation and Pension Planning (2); International Business Law(2); International Financial Regulation (2); International Human Rights Law (2); International Trade Law (2); Labor Law (2); NAFTA (2); Patent Law (2); Products Liability (2); or Securities Regulation (2). Additional courses may be determined by the Oakland University Graduate Curriculum Committee.

#### MA in History Program Review

Millie Merz and Tom Blume presented the results of their review. Mr. Blume expressed concerns about the review process because both he and Ms Merz were working on the basis of 2 year-old program review document. Ms. Merz reported that they examined other graduate history programs at other national institutions and came up with several possible recommendations. These were included in the circulated handout, Review of History Graduate Program.

Discussion focused on the outside auditor's comments on the number of cross listed 300/500 level courses being offered. Claire Rammel reported that other institutions often place a limit on the number of or percentage of slash courses<sup>[1]</sup> allowed in graduate programs. A question posed by Mohinder Parkash regarding the cost of keeping the program, which was followed by discussion of faculty load.

Mr. Parkash asked his fellow members what kinds of things they wanted to enforce in the recommendations. Meir Shillor recommended there be required and substantial differences between the undergraduate and graduate components of the slash courses. Darlene Schott-Baer suggested that the department restructure the program as follows:

1. Identify a set of graduate classes.
2. Develop plans of study for each graduate student
3. Introduce other teaching strategies
4. Delete 300/500 slash courses

5. Modify some of the 300-level courses to meet requirements of 400-level course
6. Create limited number of 400/500 slash courses
7. Limit slash courses to a minimum number (based on current or modified graduate policy)

In response, Mr. Parkash stated the opinion that Graduate Council should not design the curriculum for the History Department but, rather, report to the Provost that the program is not up to graduate standards.

Ms. Rammel agreed, but thought the Provost was seeking a recommendation from Graduate Council that provided minimum standards for quality graduate education. She believed whatever concerns Graduate Council had with the MA in History program should be relevant to all graduate programs—not be targeted to a single graduate program.

#### Graduate Program Review Guidelines

Darlene Schott-Baer summarized the history of Graduate Council's quest to develop graduate program review guidelines and reminded members of the need to review and update the proposed guidelines so they can be used with the next group of graduate programs to be reviewed. Members were asked to review documents distributed so discussion can continue at the next Council meeting.

### **III. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 25, 2006.

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[1] Slash courses (400/500) are courses simultaneously offered at both the upper-division and graduate level within the same department. Students wanting undergraduate credit register for the 4XX number and those wanting graduate credit register for the 5XX number.