

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

November 12, 2003

100 KRESGE LIBRARY

Approved:

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

Call to Order

This meeting was convened at 2:05 p.m. by Ronald Sudol, Associate Provost.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The MOTION to approve the minutes of October 8, 2003 was made, Seconded and Passed, unanimously.

II. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Ron Sudol updated the council members on the status of the graduate student appeal discussed at the last meeting. He reported that the student has been reinstated on the recommendation of the subcommittee. Mr. Sudol apprised council of a grievance presented to him by a delegation of 15 graduate assistants regarding the lack of course fee funding in the graduate assistantship program. Claire Rammel explained that after the graduate assistant budget was reduced, there was insufficient funding to cover course fees. The solution to the problem was made possible by the generosity of the School of Engineering and Computer Science. Ph.D. students in engineering do not take 24 credits during the academic year and course offerings in spring and summer are minimal; therefore, it was decided to recapture their unused eight credits of tuition and reallocate funding across the university, so each school and college will receive the benefit of course fees. This new policy will be retroactive to fall; refunding will be initiated later this semester. Claire Rammel reported that she is recruiting members for the thesis/dissertation committee, and is still looking for a person to chair the OU-Cooley Law School faculty subcommittee.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

ESL endorsement Claire Rammel reported that the endorsement letter from the state had been received and the program could proceed. Graduate Certificate in Higher Education Sheryl Klemanski reviewed the proposal and found it to be budget neutral. The School of Education and Human Resources may move ahead with the program.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Graduate Application Requirements for Students with Foreign Educational Credentials Christina Grabowski, Graduate Admissions, proposed minimizing institutional application requirements for students with foreign academic credentials and allowing individual programs to determine which application requirements are needed to admit these students. Currently, all students with foreign academic credentials need to submit a course-by-course transcript evaluation, which is produced by a third party. GRE scores are also required. Some departments require a course-by-

course transcript evaluation; however, other departments do not need a detailed version of the transcript evaluation in order to make an admit decision. The general report is needed minimally as an institutional requirement to 1) provide equivalency of the degree in a U.S. bachelor institution and 2) provide authenticity of documentation. The proposed policy eliminates the course-by-course transcript evaluation as an institutional requirement and replaces it with a general foreign transcript evaluation. Departments may choose to require the GRE exam as an additional application requirement. Official transcripts and English translations will still be required. According to Ms. Grabowski, the cost to the student would be greatly reduced. Claire Rammel reported that she took the proposal to Dean Frick who oversees a large number of international students in the School of Engineering and Computer Science. He was supportive of the proposed policy. Vincent Khapoya reminded those present that international faculty are very knowledgeable about foreign institutions and are a valuable resource. Ms. Rammel agreed but cautioned that transcript fraud is very hard to detect. MOTION was made, seconded and passed to WAIVE the second reading. MOTION was made, seconded and passed to APPROVE the proposed change to admission requirements for students with foreign credentials. First Reading - Post Master's Certificate for Adult/Gerontological Nurse Practitioner Darlene Schott-Baer provided an overview of this program, which prepares the advanced practice nurse as a primary care provider for adult, older adult, and frail elder clients in a variety of settings. The curriculum focuses on culturally sensitive care, incorporating health promotion and management of acute and chronic health problems. Graduates are prepared to take an Adult Nurse Practitioner national certification examination and/or a Gerontological Nurse Practitioner national certification examination. The program requires no new courses, no new faculty and is budget neutral. A MOTION was seconded and passed. The Graduate Council will have a second reading at the next meeting. Minimum Credit Requirement for Graduate Programs Mohinder Parkash raised the topic of the 32-credit hour degree requirement and the possibility of offering a 30-hour master's program. Claire Rammel replied that 32 credits is the existing minimum requirement; however, she can find no policy to confirm this and asked if the council should make a statement to formally endorse the minimum level. Discussion followed during which Vincent Khapoya, arguing for autonomy, stated that there is no need for guidelines as the institution has been meeting the practiced standard and has not been delivering programs below the minimum credit requirement. The other members concurred. Academic units bringing new programs before the council will have to justify those that do not meet the current standard.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 10, 2003.