

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
SENATE GRADUATE COMMITTEE**

The Senate Graduate Committee met on Thursday, February 22, 2007, in 108 Mitchell Hall.

Present: Lonna Atkeson, Anne Calhoon, *Barbara Carver, Ann Cunliffe, Joseph Garcia, *Mariana Ibáñez, Claudia Isaac, Jim Jacob (chair), Glenn Koster, *David Sanchez, *Kathleen Sena, Sam Truett, Mary Walker and *Amy Wohlert

Excused: Marianne Berwick, Ann Massmann, Wolfgang, Rudolph, Yu-Lin Shen and Geoff Shuster

Absent: Ron Andrews, Sue Queen and Mario Rivera

Minutes:

Anne Calhoon moved approval of the February 1, 2007 SGC minutes; Mary Walker seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Curriculum Subcommittee Report:

Claudia presented the curriculum forms approved by the subcommittee (attached). The Committee approved 17 Forms C and 8 forms B. The majority of the Forms C consisted of new concentration curriculum for Latin American Studies (Southwest Studies) and a new emphasis (Health Psychology) in Psychology's existing concentrations.

Catalog Subcommittee Report:

Jim Jacob presented the subcommittee's rationale for policy changes that will be forwarded to the Faculty Senate for final approval. He noted two new items that need Committee action. First, the Conditional Pass policy approved by the Committee does not indicate consequences for students who do not meet the 90-day deadline. The discussion included consideration of an automatic fail as well as not counting an exam with conditional pass in the limit (2 attempts) allowed. The final decision was to modify the conditional pass policy to include a deadline of "the end of the subsequent term, excluding summer." The entire policy reads:

"After evaluating the materials required for the examination, if the faculty Committee thinks that, although the student has demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the field, it is not quite sufficient to justify a grade of "pass", the committee may assign the grade of "Conditional Pass" and require that the student meet additional conditions before a grade of pass will be awarded. Students must resolve the "Conditional Pass" by the end of the subsequent term, excluding summer. Failure to resolve the "Conditional Pass" will result in a failure on the exam. However, students who plan to graduate in a specific term must resolve a "Conditional Pass" by the posted

graduation deadline for examinations. The committee will note the conditions that need to be met by the student on the examination form.”

Secondly, the subcommittee added a new policy for SGC consideration. The policy requires submission of a thesis within a 90-day period after the defense; this policy echoes the dissertation submission policy. The SGC agreed that 90-days was a reasonable time to make the corrections to the manuscript and that it was a necessary policy. They voted to include it with the other policies sent forward to the FS for consideration.

Jacob reported that he had written to Dean Scarnecchia about dual degree requirements. The current UNM policy states that dual degrees must be completed in the same term, but Law students in dual degree programs are allowed to complete their Law degrees without completing the second degree. Dean Scarnecchia replied that the logic behind this practice was that Law students are not allowed to take the Bar Exam until their law degrees were posted, and it was unfair to delay the start of their careers. The Committee discussed some time limits between the granting of the law degree and the second/dual degree. They agreed that a year’s difference was acceptable.

Jacob informed the Committee about an email he received from David Jones, chair of English, about tuition waivers. There is some confusion about whether students can apply unused tuition hours from one term to the next. Dean Wohlert explained that the decision did not rest with OGS, but with the respective colleges/departments who wanted to use the extra/leftover tuition hours. The SGC approved a language change a few years back that simply clarified that OGS would not manage any tuition hour carryover. Wohlert and Jacob will work on some language that would clarify this for inclusion in the 2007 catalog.

Faculty Senate Restructuring Issue:

Jim Jacob noted that the agenda packets included a report that was distributed at the January meeting of the Faculty Senate. The report focuses on the restructuring of the FS subcommittees discussion that began last fall. He noted the concerns that he and others have about combining the tasks of several existing subcommittees into one. Kathleen Sena noted that there would be another University-wide meeting in March to continue the discussion of restructuring. Jacob noted that included with the documents submitted to those attending the first FS meeting included a survey that showed that SGC had the highest level of satisfaction. After a lengthy discussion the Committee asked the Chair to inform the FS president of the Committee’s concerns and to invite Dr. Shipman to a meeting of the SGC for further discussion and clarification of the issues.

Undergraduate Committee Request:

Andrew Burgess and Nick Flor from the Undergraduate Committee met with Jim Jacob to discuss a proposal prepared by the Undergraduate Committee in response to the FS restructuring possibilities as well as the recent report from the Provost’s Taskforce on Graduation. He noted that the SGC did have some concerns of how this Taskforce report would impact graduate education, specifically: offering of graduate courses in the

intercession, the possible change of time schedules for courses, and the possible change in the drop/add deadlines.

The Undergraduate Committee submitted a proposal to the Senate Operations Committee requesting that the FS institute a policy stating that all issues be sent to the appropriate subcommittee of the FS for discussion prior to being heard before the full Senate, and that the restructuring of the FS subcommittees be delayed until a wider audience of faculty can comment/participate. The Undergraduate Committee asks that the SGC support their concerns and the resolution that they are sending to the FS.

The Committee discussed the request and directed Chair Jacob to draft a memo of support for the Undergraduate Committee.

Reports:

OGS:

Mariana Ibáñez reported that Electronic Theses and Dissertations ETD's will soon be a reality at UNM. There have been efforts to bring the electronic submission of theses and dissertations at UNM for a number of years and finally a pilot program has been established. OGS, the UNM Library system and ECE will participate in the Spring and Summer 2007 terms. During the pilot OGS will work on changes to process, forms etc. and students will be required to submit both paper and electronic copies of their manuscripts. The UNM Libraries will maintain the electronic space and provide some training.

Jacob asked Ibáñez to prepare a presentation for SGC for a future meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35.