

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

The Senate Graduate Committee met on Thursday, November 1, 2007, in 108 Mitchell Hall.

Members Present: Mel Armstrong, Lonna Atkeson, *Barbara Carver, Linda Felton, *Charles Fleddermann, *Mariana Ibanez, Claudia Isaac, Jim Jacob (chair), Glenn Koster, Ann Massmann, Sue Queen, *David Sanchez, John Stormont and Linney Wix

Members Excused: Ron Andrews, Michelle Arthur, Greg Martin, *Kathleen Sena, Geoff Shuster and Roli Varma

Members Absent: Yemane Asmerom

Minutes:

Glenn Koster moved approval of the October 18 minutes. John Stormont seconded the motion; the minutes were approved.

Curriculum Subcommittee Report:

Claudia Isaac presented on curriculum Form C and Forms B to the Committee. The Form C proposed by the Latin American Studies program requested the deletion emphasis areas in their History concentration to allow students more flexibility. The Form C was approved. Psychology submitted a Form B to create a new course (*PSY 405) that would give credit to students who work in the Agora Crisis Center. The course was approved. The final Form B was from Nursing, creating a course (NURS 627) in Qualitative Data Analysis; the course was approved.

Catalog Subcommittee Report:

Jim Jacob presented the draft language for portions of the Catalog to the Committee. The draft consisted of simple language changes as well new policy suggestions. The policy issues include: leave of absence for active duty military, concurrent enrollment, two new types of faculty approvals and a restriction on the percentage of topics courses that can apply toward a transcribed certificate.

The language changes suggested by the members were incorporated into the draft (attached). The language changes for clarification of Catalog copy will be forwarded to the Registrar for inclusion in the 2008-2009 Catalog. The policy changes, together with the rationale for each will be forwarded to the Senate Operations Committee for review before being taken to the full Senate for action. If approved, they will also be included in the 2008-2009 UNM Catalog.

Reports:**GPSA:**

Mel Armstrong reported that the possibility of including a diversity requirement for every graduating student was not on the agenda for the Council's last meeting, but it was discussed at the hate crimes open forum held on October 29th. The issue will be included on a future Council meeting agenda and the outcome of that discussion will be presented to SGC. She noted that at the Council meeting money had been approved to conduct a large scale survey of graduate students, including questions on dual numbered courses and the students' perception of their impact on graduate education.

OGS:

Dean Fleddermann reported that he has been asked to develop a proposal for teacher preparation of graduate students. President Schmidly is interested in the effect of graduate student teaching on undergraduate enrollment as well as the enhancement of the teaching experience for graduate students. Dean Fleddermann will work on a proposal that will expand TARC (Teaching Associates Research Center) activities with the possible goal of creating a new transcribed certificate. If that is the chosen outcome he will need to expand existing courses and/or develop new courses that will be used for the certificate. The question of whether the certificate would be mandatory for all TA's is yet to be decided.

The second initiative Fleddermann will undertake is focused on foreign-born TA's whose first language is not English. Many undergraduates complain that they have difficulty understanding some foreign born TA's. Expansion of the ITARC (International Teaching Associate Research Center) would help them build language and communication skills. Participation in ITARC would not be punitive but rather a tool to help students reach their goals and if a certificate were offered, that would be an official recognition of the teaching skills the student would bring to a teaching position.

He went on to explain that while UNM has about 1600 TA's only 15-20 students participate in the TARC program each term. Some TA's may be required to complete departmental training sessions. There is no plan to replace the departmental training, but rather to supplement them by stressing more general information. Fleddermann also said that his proposal will include a request for funding so that neither the student nor the department would bear the full cost of the teaching enhancement/preparation training.

SGC:

Jacob reminded the Committee that the end of the term, and his service as chair is fast approaching. He encouraged SGC members who are interested to contact him.

The meeting adjourned at 9: 08 a.m.