

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

The Senate Graduate Committee met on Thursday, November 15, 2007, in 108 Mitchell Hall.

Members Present: Mel Armstrong, Michelle Arthur, Yemane Asmerom, Lonna Atkeson, *Barbara Carver, *Charles Fleddermann, *Mariana Ibanez, Jim Jacob (chair) : Kathleen Keating (for Ann Massmann), Greg Martin, Sue Queen, *Kathleen Sena, Geoff Shuster and John Stormont

Members Excused: Ron Andrews, Linda Felton, Claudia Isaac, Glenn Koster, Ann Massmann, *David Sanchez, Roli Varma and Linney Wix

Minutes:

Sue Queen moved approval of the November 1, 2007 minutes. John Stormont seconded the motion; the minutes were approved.

Curriculum Subcommittee Report:

John Stormont presented two curriculum forms for the Committee's consideration. The two Forms B were from Civil Engineering creating CE 571 – Sustainable Design and Construction and CE 576 – Project Delivery Systems, both are elective courses that have been taught as problems courses. The SGC approved both forms.

Stormont reported that the subcommittee continued their discussion on dual numbered courses. The subcommittee does not have a resolution as yet. The subcommittee is looking at dual numbered courses in terms of the difference between offering a course at the graduate level and allowing undergraduate to attend and offering the course at the undergraduate level with accommodation made for graduate students. Their perspective is that courses should be taught at the graduate level with undergraduate allowed to attend. The subcommittee plans to present a proposal for consideration at the next SGC meeting.

Catalog Subcommittee Report:

Chair Jacob noted that Catalog subcommittee has been working on some new language changes and will bring them to the December meeting of the SGC. The changes are language clarification and not policy changes.

Credit Issues with Dual Numbered Courses:

Kathleen Sena discussed the problem of linking problems, topics and seminars with the Committee. She explained that when the courses are linked so are the enrollment limits and that is causing problems for students. For example: LING 490/50 – Topics in

Linguistics is available to a maximum of 12 credits. The student system adds the undergraduate credits together with the graduate credits because the courses are linked. So if Student B takes 9 hours at the undergraduate level she can enroll in only one 3-credit hour instance at the graduate level. Any subsequent attempts exceed the published credit hour limit and Student B's academic record will show the course as "repeated" and the credits and grade earned are automatically stripped from Student B's transcript.

Sena explained that number of "repeated" courses has increased exponentially since the advent of Banner because it, unlike IDMS, has the ability to link the dual numbered courses and monitor the credit hours taken. She requested that SGC consider removing the link for problems, topics and seminar courses only.

Members discussed this proposal at length discussing the implications both negative and positive and considered the option of asking departments to raise the enrollment limits. The Committee approved the motion that the link between dual numbered topics, seminars and problems courses be removed.

Honorary Degree Subcommittee Report:

Lonna Atkeson presented five nominees for Honorary Degrees. The Committee discussed the nominees briefly, noting that the summaries of each were very brief. A number of questions were raised about process: what are the criteria for nomination; can the SGC review the full portfolio for each nominee; if so, how would that be arranged; does the SGC vote for the nominees as a group or could they vote for them individually; etc.

Atkeson said she would arrange to have copies made of each nominee's portfolio. In addition she would gather the policies that govern Honorary Degrees and the list of recipients to date for the Committee's review. Mariana Ibáñez, SGC liaison will be responsible for the files and maintaining the confidentiality of the information. The SGC will vote on the nominees at their December 6th meeting.

Diversity Course Requirement:

Jacob referred the members to the memo prepared by the Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee's subcommittee on Diversity. That subcommittee recommendation that all undergraduate and graduate degree programs will have a requirement of a one three-credit hour class that meets the university diversity guidelines. In light of the Committee's previous discussion, Jacob prepared a response for the Committee's review indicating that the SGC recognized the importance of diversity training, but that SGC was not ready to consider a "core/required" course for graduate students. The Committee approved the Chair's draft and he will send a memo to Kathleen Keating, chair of the FSCC.

Reports:

GPSA

Mel Armstrong reported that on November 3, 2007 the GPSA Council adopted a resolution on dual numbered courses. She presented the resolution to the Committee and

noted that it would be sent to the appropriate Senate committees, as well as the Faculty Senate. The resolution supports the SGC's stance that dual numbered courses should only be offered where significant and demonstrable academic benefits exist for both undergraduate and graduate students, that all dual numbered courses should be taught at the graduate level and that the enrollment in course with both graduate and undergraduate numbers is restricted to undergraduate students at senior level or with permission of the instructor.

Armstrong also reported that there is an attempt to recall GPSA President Joseph Garcia, which has been difficult and pushed aside other issues.

OGS:

Dean Fleddermann said that there seems to be a misunderstanding about the Provost's announcing a search for someone to fill the position of Dean of Graduate Studies. The announcement does not reflect any dissatisfaction with him or Amy Wohlert. He explained that the position is currently a part-time position and that the decision to change the position to full-time meant the job had to be posted. Fleddermann said his experience as acting dean convinced him that the job requires full-time status. The expectation is that the search will be completed and the acting dean will be named prior to winter break.

Barbara Carver, Assistant graduate dean, noted that she will attend a recruitment session this evening (11/15/07) aimed at recruiting non-degree students into graduate programs.

The search to replace Mariana Ibanez, Academic Affairs Specialist in OGS, is underway, with results expected before the end of this term.

SGC:

Jacob noted that Kathleen Keating's work is on exhibit in the Herzstein Latin American Reading room in Zimmerman Library through January 25, 2008. Keating is the chair of the FSCC and regularly in attendance at the SGC.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20