

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

The Senate Graduate Committee met on Thursday, March 6, 2008, in 108 Mitchell Hall.

**Members Present:** Ron Andrews (chair), \*Robben Baca, Michele Chwastiak, Linda Felton, \*Wynn Goering, Glenn Kostur, Ann Massmann, Geoff Shuster, Roli Varma and Linney Wix

**Members Excused:** Lonna Atkeson, \*Barbara Carver, Claudia Isaac, Sue Queen, and John Stormont

**Members Absent:** Yemane Asmerom, \*Chuck Fleddermann, Joseph Garcia, Greg Martin, \*David Sanchez, and \*Kathleen Sena

(\* Indicates non-voting member)

**Minutes:**

Glenn Kostur moved approval of the February 21, 2008 minutes. Geoff Shuster seconded the motion; the minutes were approved.

**Curriculum Subcommittee Report:**

Michele Chwastiak presented curriculum forms for the Committee's consideration. The following forms were approved by the SGC:

- Form B—CS 512 Advanced Image Synthesis
- Form B—NURS597 Applied Examination
- Form C—Computer Science – For the MS simplify and streamline requirements and introduce flexibility in exploring electives.
- Form C—Music – Music Education concentration. Due to expansion of graduate-level course offerings, it is now possible for students to take courses in the field; expand the free electives category.
- Form C—Nursing – MSN all concentrations. Add text to specific required courses: “Final requirement: N596 Professional Paper OR N597 Applied Examination.”
- Form C—Public Administration – Under admission heading, delete #5 in order to clarify and simplify catalog.

Roli Varma explained that the director of Public Administration has asked that the Form C for Public Administration remain pending/tabled because they are in the process of hiring new faculty/staff. The changes are so that exceptions will not have to be made as a result of the ASM courses no longer being offered.

### **Academic Program Reviews:**

Ann Massmann noted that the sub-committee has reports on five program reviews: Language Literacy and Sociocultural Studies (LLSS), Spanish and Portuguese, Biology, Geography, and Latin American Studies. Mathematics will be scheduled for April.

Linda Felton attended the Exit Review for the Spanish and Portuguese department. Overall self-study appeared to be negative, due to leadership turnover, faculty frustration, the need for technical support, space, and other issues faced. 15 faculty members, 57 graduate teaching assistants. External Review Committee suggested strategic hires to build on their strengths, systematic mentoring for faculty, to formalize assessment procedures for TA's and coordinators, development of a resolution process for disputes between TA's and coordinators, faculty incentives for curricula and new programs, build alliances with other departments/programs to build graduate education.

Wynn Goering, administers Program Reviews and explained how these reviews came about, the development of this current process as being developed by Brian Foster and was designed to strengthen the review process. Makes sense to review all the programs from undergraduate on up to graduate in a department. They are mini-self-studies. Select 3-4 external reviewers, plus Dean and Provost who act as a Site-team for a regular accreditation review. When there are programs that have professional or external accreditations they are scheduled at the same time and the standards are dictated for them according to accreditation process. Gives Dean a better sense of what's there and what he/she needs to be aware of and focus on to strengthen the college. Amy Wohlert set these up and gets the credit for the design. There is a 7-year cycle to hit all programs.

Massmann explained that there is a pre-site visit, site-visit with an exit meeting and an action plan that the sub-committee attends to represent SGC. They are to provide feedback and report to the SGC what is discussed.

Geoff Shuster attended the Program Review for Biology (pre-site visit). 38 faculty, 8 lecturers, 36 research and post-docs, 103 graduate students (85 are PhD), 1300 biology majors, 3 programs/emphases. Review was well put together. 35000 square feet of lab area. Challenges are that some of the productive faculty are up for retirement, generated a number of questions for the review team. How do we ensure maintenance and quality of the program, continue to recruit majors or shift for a higher quality? To what extent should department reach out to other programs around campus that are interested in working and collaborating with them, should they split into different emphases areas? Final Exit review is coming up in April.

Massmann attended the Geography exit-site review. Very small program that was almost shut down a few years ago. Have support from A&S to grow, talked about how they are struggling with startling between the sciences and the other field, Human Geography, that are not necessarily considered a science (e.g. creating maps, population, environment, looking at patterns and use). 4 regular faculty, most of who are new, 2 new hires coming up for next year, chair is about to retire. One of two departments in A&S without a PhD program; it was recommended they work to strengthen their master's program before

looking at a PhD. Areas praised were their outcome assessment that were built into the program, lots of supporting material, really good support from faculty outside of their department. Need for more funding for TAs. Diversity came up in the exit-interview, it is there gender wise but because it is a small department and difficult to be diverse. It is very community oriented program. Faculty need to take a leadership in Geographic Information Sciences (GIS).

Massmann attended the Latin American Studies pre-site visit (schedule conflicts arose for the exit-review). Highest number of MA graduate students in the A&S. 60-65 TAs. Majority are MA students, 5 PhD students because it is considered a terminal degree, and often graduates of the program go out and work in the field, the PhD is usually those who are choosing to teach at the university. Working on better advisement of graduate students, lack of recruitment for undergrads. Technically have no budget line, no faculty of their own, they have a director, and one staff member. 61 affiliated faculty from 14 different departments around campus. Function fairly well with the support of other departments. Have 5 different dual degree programs: ASM, Architecture, School of Law, Education, and College of Nursing. Budget is the major issue. Latin American and Iberian Institute (LAI) lost Title VI funding in 2006. The LAI had 7 GAs and 2 TAs. Very diverse groups of students and faculty. Concerns were reassessing the PhD program, lack of sufficient, stable resource space, faculty retention and recruitment, develop their own core-courses.

Massmann attended the LLSS Action-Review/Plan. Looking at hiring a graduate advisor. They have a large amount of non-degree graduate students. Engaged in New Mexico communities, Hispanic and Native American communities. Asked to get doctoral students to do more publications. Switching around advising so it doesn't fall onto faculty, getting doctoral students to teach more at the master's level. Recruit more Hispanic and Native American students to the doctoral program. Biggest issue is lack of money for TAs. Issue that came up was scheduling, because majority of students are teaching in the schools and having to come to campus, find parking and get to class. Holder addressed this last year; they talked to the scheduling office and it is something that impacts Banner as well. Goering indicated that is an issue of total space. Linney Wix and Goering addressed the issue of the high number of Non-degree students is due to the fact that a lot of the students are teachers and seeking hours for certification, etc. Wix explained that the department does not get credit for students in non-degree status. The department is currently developing a certificate program that they can hopefully transition the non-degree students into.

### **Reports:**

Ann Massmann inquired about a representative from GPSA since Mel Armstrong left UNM; she explained that Christopher Ramirez is the new council person to replace her. Robben Baca and Chair Andrews explained that Joseph Garcia attended last meeting. Baca will follow-up to determine if Joseph Garcia will attend or if Christopher Ramirez will be the representative.

**SGC**

Chair Andrews discussed the last two documents in the agenda packet. He will be attending the Operations meeting to bring the catalog changes to Faculty Senate. He asked for any specifics recalled by the committee that he should be aware of. If any questions arise, he will bring them to the committee.

Chair Andrews asked for any feedback on the language of our Charge as a committee to include Professional Degree Programs (as well as in the name of the committee).

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 a.m.