Minutes of the
Regular Meeting of April 28, 2010
2:00 p.m., Alumni House Lounge


The meeting was convened at 2:05 p.m. by the Chairperson, Dean Wardell.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes of March 24, 2010.

II. GRADUATE COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. NEW PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

1. Proposal to Change the Name of the Marriage and Family Psychology M.A. Program

Alan Hoffman, director of the program, explained the reasons for changing the program name to “Counseling Psychology.” The program is much broader than the current name suggests, and marriage and family psychology is a small part of the whole curriculum. The current name is often confused with “marriage and family therapy,” by potential applicants, prospective employers and even licensure boards. This is a problem because such therapy programs are not psychology programs and do not lead to licensure. The new name, “Counseling Psychology” will eliminate the confusion.

MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to approve the change in the name of the Master of Arts program in “Marriage and Family Psychology” to “Counseling Psychology.”

2. Proposal to Transfer the Scientific Computing Graduate Certificate Program

Loren Schwiebert, Graduate Director of the Computer Science Department, explained the origin of the Certificate program and the reasons for requesting its transfer from the Graduate School to the Computer Science Department. The Certificate program was established to train students from various disciplines in the concepts of computing as a research tool and was a requirement for students participating in the NSF-sponsored IGERT
program in the Institute for Scientific Computing. It was housed in the Graduate School because institutes cannot award degrees and certificates. The director of the IGERT program was also the chair of the Computer Science Department and thus much of the administrative work for the Certificate program and students was done though the Department. However, the IGERT grant has ended, the Institute has closed and that chair has left the institution. Transferring the Certificate to the Computer Science Department is appropriate because the Department offers three of the Certificate courses and has experience working with students and faculty from other departments in various collaborative efforts. Moving the Certificate to the Computer Science Department will help reinvigorate the program.

MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to approve the transfer of the Scientific Computing Graduate Certificate program from the Graduate School to the Department of Computer Science.

3. Proposal for an Accelerated Master’s Program

An Accelerated Master’s Program (AMP) allows talented undergraduates in their senior year to gain admission to a graduate program and enroll in graduate courses that can be applied toward both their graduate and undergraduate degrees. Dean Wardell explained the background of this proposal. It was approved by the Graduate Council in March and submitted to the Provost, who took it to the Council of Deans for review. Concerns were raised, including the idea that all existing AGRADE programs would have to submit proposals for an AMP. The AMP proposal and the concerns raised by the Provost were sent to the New Programs Committee for consideration. The Committee reaffirmed the original proposal, and that is on the agenda today. Dean Wardell identified advantages of the AMP over AGRADE programs: first, students have to apply only once to the graduate program, rather than to the AGRADE program and then to the graduate program; second, faculty determine the curriculum that may be double-counted.

Members discussed the proposal. Undergraduate tuition will be charged until completion of the undergraduate requirements. A graduate program’s normal admission requirements apply to AMP applicants, and the AMP curriculum would have to be defined. AMPs may be established between programs in two different colleges. The program will be announced by the Graduate School and discussed at the upcoming Graduate Directors meeting.

MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to approve the establishment of an Accelerated Master’s Program.

4. Proposal to Establish a Dual-Title Degree Program

Dean Wardell explained the dual-title degree program. Interdisciplinary areas of research exist in the university and involve faculty and courses from a variety of departments. Such areas typically may be formalized through Graduate Certificates, and they add value to a student’s degree program. Certificate subject matter, however, is not integrated into the student’s degree program. A dual-title degree program would integrate the interdisciplinary area into the milestones of the degree program and would include faculty from the dual-title area on the student’s qualifying exam and dissertation committees. Such an approach would foster interdisciplinary activity. For example, infant mental health or gerontology are interdisciplinary research areas, with faculty in several colleges pursuing research and offering coursework. They could be formalized into a dual-title area for students in several different degree programs, such as Social Work, Nursing and Psychology. Infant mental health or gerontology would then be integrated into the students’ coursework, exams and dissertation, adding significant value to their research in a way that existing Graduate Certificates in these areas cannot. The student’s degree would be a Ph.D. in X, with a dual-title in Y.
Members discussed the proposal. The dual-title area consists of a minimum of 12 credits. Areas that could be dual-title areas cannot already offer a degree. Dual-title areas would be established by a proposal to the New Programs Committee. At least one major program would have to indicate interest in adopting it, also through a proposal to the Committee. Dual-title areas differ from a minor in that they are integrated into the student’s program and differ from a concentration in that they are outside the major program. Dual-title areas could supplant the minor. Students would have to be admitted to the major program first and then apply to the dual-title area. The dual-title area benefits the program because it can promote the dual-title area as a distinguishing option to prospective students, and it benefits the student because it is recorded on the transcript as a distinguishing credential to employers. The guidelines explain how dual-title programs will be established.

**MOTION** was made, seconded, and passed to approve the dual-title degree program proposal.

### III. REPORT OF THE DEAN

Dean Wardell reported that Anna Santiago, Professor of Social Work, is leaving Wayne State for a named chair at Case Western Reserve. He thanked her for her years of service on the Graduate Council and leadership on the Executive Committee. He congratulated her, and members amplified the congratulations by applauding.

### IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Summaries of the year’s activities are attached to these minutes.

### V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista L. English
Secretary of the Graduate Council