BSU graduate committee MINUTES for 04/28/2008 at 1:00 PM in Decker 132

Present:  Mark C., Richard H. (for Louise J.), Mark F., Randy W., Christel K., Sue C., Vince V., Carol N., Joan M.

Absent:  Diana N., Rich K.

1. Approval of previous minutes (04/14/2008) – Document #1

Because the April 14, 2008, minutes were not retrieved by committee members, Christel will seek email approve as well as today’s minutes. Mark F. moved (Sue 2nd) to accept this method of reviewing the minutes. Motion carried.

Reminders/FYI

2. Graduate Student Mini Grants:  Not ready yet; Randy and Mark C. will complete the review and submit their findings to the committee and Joan prior to April 30, the deadline for announcing the awards.

Updates (if applicable)

3. MnSCU Grad Council Meeting on 4/18/2008

Joan reported:
  ▪ Ann Blackhurst, Dean, School of Graduate Studies, Mankato was elected the new Chair of the MnSCU Graduate Council
  ▪ Recommended that Advisor Boards be created for graduate programs
  ▪ Discussed that collaborative programs within the system are “win-win” situations
  ▪ Discussed the idea of creating a user group for the ISRS –I suggested they include those who actually use the system in addition to Registrars, Deans, etc.
  ▪ MSUAASF staff have been awarded tuition waiver for the doctoral degrees in MnSCU
  ▪ SCSU have increased their GA stipend to $10,300 for FY09 and an additional $400 for FY10…these are cost of living increases; Winona actually provides a $10,000 stipend and tuition waiver of 24 credits, which covers Fall, Spring, and Summer credits
  ▪ No one, especially SCSU, expected the amount of applications as they have received for the doctoral program from within the MnSCU system. Asked if there would be help available to off-set some of the cost of the tuition waivers; little hope for assistance.

4. Increasing GA stipends:  Need to talk to Carol as she took it forward to Dr. Fredricson.

Business

5. Hooding at Commencement – Randy and Christel will again serve as “hooders” for commencement.

6. Bob Griggs wants to come to the grad council meeting to talk about "Enrollment size in Grad CEL Classes: Default 25."-not in attendance. – Will not be attending on this issue.

7. Curriculum Proposals:
  ▪ PSY(6120) 07-08 #9
    This course is required for the highest level of licensure; current plan is to offer during the summer; Mark C. (Randy W. 2nd) moved to accept. Motion carried.
  ▪ BIOL 07-08 #18
    Molecular genetics course is a much more advanced course to justify credit increase; Aquatic course decreased to meet the needs of DNR employees. Mark C. (Vince 2nd) moved to accept. Motion carried.
8. Review of curriculum process → faculty timely access to proposals → Wendy Larson suggested to hold a joined meeting of BSU curriculum and graduate committees since both were charged with the same review.

   The BSU Graduate Committee, Wendy Larson, and Marsha Driscoll should meet. Topic: Earlier access to curriculum proposals for all levels. It was suggested that this issue be tabled till next year. Everyone agreed.

9. MAGS Awards Survey – Document #2

   General consensus, we would submit in any event.

10. Master of Special Education forms (SC)

    The MSpEd has been approved. Form 3 completed during the last class, ED 6690; Form 3b: Practicum piece done very early in the program where the students will receive verification from a Field Representative; may take a year to year and a half before the students could come back to complete their master’s degree.

    Oral component will be included in the ED 6690 class to present to their classmates via D2L or other technical venues; discuss curriculum projects and how they are being used in the classroom; additional understanding of Special Education; instructor of the course and a 2nd person. The Field Representative would in all probability not be in attendance depending upon the amount of time between the completion of the licensure practicum vs. the graduate program.

    The consensus of the BSU Graduate Committee is that there seems to be the oral component missing from ED 6690, the final class in the Master of Special Education. Real Time and immediacy of the experience and the focus on the student is an important part of completing a graduate degree. Sue will take the issue back to the Special Education Committee for review and resubmit for review and approval.

    The BSU Graduate Committee based their decision on the graduate catalog standards already in place.

11. GPA Issue (JM) – Document #3

    When students apply for admission and their grade point average does not meet the minimum requirement of 2.75, should the graduate office contact the student that they may take courses as a graduate special student until such time the establish an acceptable GPA and then have the student complete the application process OR should the Department be the deciding factor in their admission with the possibility that the School of Graduate Studies office override their decision.

    The consensus was to take this issue back to the departments and discuss at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m. Next meeting TBA in Fall 2008.

12. Status: Increase application fee and graduation fee: currently $20 and $10, respectively.

13. Other Business