November 6, 2008
BSU Graduate Committee Meeting
1:00 pm in room 314 Sattgast

Present:    Dianne Narum, Mark Christensen, Joan Miller, Jim White, Pat Rogers, Richard Koch, Pat Welle, Tim Kroeger, Vince Vohnout, Louise Jackson, Hal Gritzmacher

Absent:  Rich Spindler

I. Minutes from October 31, 2008- add Louise’s name to reader list for the BSU Creativity Award. Mark moved (Rich 2nd) to accept the minutes with the change. Motion carried.

II. Old Business

A.  BSU Grad Committee workplan continued

B.  The Charge for the Grad Committee.

III. New Business

A. MSPD program report...postpone till later....

B. A one-credit ongoing tuition fee for graduate students who have completed their academic coursework but not the thesis.

After much discussion, the committee decided to leave the UNIV 6000 course as is for graduate students to stay “connected” to the university. The Library staff will determine on a case-by-case basis whether to accommodate graduate students with a temporary “pass” into the system as it takes approximately 24 hours for the student’s record to be activated once he/she registers for UNIV 6000.

C. The role of the grad rep in the oral defense.  Should it be changed?

The question as to how much authority or power do grad reps have in oral defenses was discussed. The following comments/suggestions were made:

1. Graduate advisors should receive training on what expectations are in place as an advisor. Suggested we talk with the CPD concerning advisor training;

2. Clarify the expectation of committee members....are they to inform the Chair if the paper is not ready.
3. Suggested that a rubric be created for expectations of the thesis/research papers or should this be done in the departments?

4. Suggested that the grad rep be given one week to review the paper; if they have major concerns, the grad rep would contact the dean with their written concerns; the dean would make the decision to either contact the advisor or let it go through.

The graduate office will bring a revised oral defense form to the next meeting for review and suggestions.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, November 20, 2008 at 1 p.m. in Sattgast 314.

Respectfully submitted by,

Joan Miller
Administrative Assistant
School of Graduate Studies