

BSU Graduate Committee Meeting-MINUTES
February 5, 2009, 1pm 314 Sattgast

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

Absent: Mark Christensen, Patricia Rogers, Todd Frauenholtz

Guests: Judy Olson

The meeting opened at 1:05 p.m. with introductions.

I. Minutes of January 22, 2009

Vince moved (Hal 2nd) to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Old Business:

1. Grad Committee Decision Making Structure

- a. Do research on the issue, including faculty in our departments and other MnSCU schools.
- b. Have a full and serious discussion about the matter to ensure all members are heard.
- c. Commit to talking to our departments about new policies to ensure that we have a wide response to proposals.
- d. Don't rush to decision.

2. Graduate Mini-grants - update? Just one applicant thus far.....think about how to disburse funds if some students do not meet all the requirements such as not having actually completed the 12 required credits.

Tabled till the next meeting...

3. Continuing conversation regarding maintaining quality for grad research papers and theses.
 - a. one idea was that the Grad Rep reports to Grad Committee to work with Dean on unusually poor papers.
 - b. developing program of raising standards for papers and theses at BSU.
 - c. creating consequences for patterns of poor papers by specific faculty chairs
 - i. removing them from Grad Faculty status
 - ii. included in their PDP
 - iii. other suggestions

4. Last May, Sue Cutler, then a member of the Grad Committee, presented a proposal for the Applied Master's MSPED changing the grad forms to fit the applied format, including:

- a. One BSU non-departmental member on the student's committee, a change from established procedure.
- b. The field representative would submit a copy of their LD or EBD license rather than the required vita/resume, a change from established procedure.
- c. The student would not be required to make a presentation (orals). Another departure.

The Grad Committee turned down the proposal. Students in the MSPED transferred into the regular MS in SPED, which is the same online program but includes a capstone written project.

Hal Gritzmacher, a member of the Grad Committee this year, has asked that we discuss this matter further.

At this meeting we will discuss the barriers, along with compromise solutions, for Hal and Sue to consider, along with encouragement that they submit a new stronger proposal that will allow the Grad Committee to approve. The Dean is not able to be present, and she asked that we not vote on any actions during this meeting, but wait until next meeting if there are any decisions to be put to a vote so she can be present.

To assist the Committee in its deliberations, this meeting will include a comparison and contrast of the BSU program with a second version of the program in Wyoming. Judy Olson will join us to talk about that program and how they resolved these issues with their version of the applied format. I am hopeful that this discussion will assist the Committee in generating recommendations for change.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the proposed changes to the Master of Special Education processes. It was determined to table this issue until the next meeting to give the Department time to meet. They will meet to determine the difference between the MS and Applied Masters.

The issue of program extensions for Special Education students was also discussed.

Judy Olson, who heads the Wyoming cohort for the Master of Special Education explained how they handle the presentation portion of the program.

They are in their 2nd cohort of students at Natrona Cty School District; they use the exact same paperwork as is required by the Master of Education; each student is given a portfolio listing the 21 standards required of WY; MN only requires 10. An outline of program was distributed...Standard Reflection Summary connects standards to each course...each student marks each of the standards when completed; needs to provide 2-3 projects of for the evidence of that standard; the projects are then compiled at the end of the program and the student makes a presentation to her committee advisor, non-Departmental member, and Field Representative. This final presentation/project is rated. The guidelines are taken

exactly from the graduate catalog..written, self-reflections, several papers, and one final project that they combine and have to meet all the standards...this is used for the final presentation, which lasts approximately 1 hour, which is videotaped. Students do not work with a graduate committee, per se but with the Field Representative throughout their program.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m. Next meeting will be Thursday, February 19, 2009 at 1 p.m. in Sattgast 314.

New Business:

1. Joan Miller - Differential tuition meeting concept for BSU
2. Joan Miller - Regarding a conference for admissions directors on graduate recruitment language - Are we interested in having Grad Coordinators and Faculty attend workshops of this type? Or is this a Graduate Admissions In-service?
3. Reminder that advisors and graduate committees are not to schedule oral defenses until such time a graduate faculty representative is assigned. This creates a lot of extra work for Joan to try and find grad reps after the orals have been scheduled.