University of Rhode Island
The Graduate School
Graduate Council Meeting No. 441, 9 December 2009
MINUTES

Council Members Present: Lori Ciccomascolo, Nancy Eaton, Brian Gallagher, Mary Sullivan, Liz Smith, Rebecca Robinson, Rebekah Greene, Beth Marcoux, Cynthia Willey, Ryan Trimm, Gary Stoner

Others Present: Interim Dean Nasser Zawia, Associate Dean Harold Bibb, Associate Dean Keith Killingbeck, Ms. Megan Verry, Prof. Martin Sadd, Prof. Cathy English

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Interim Dean Zawia.

II. The Minutes of Meeting No. 440 were approved.

III. Announcements

A. Interim Dean Zawia took a moment to acknowledge Associate Dean Bibb and his upcoming retirement, noting all of his hard work and dedication to Graduate Education at the University of Rhode Island and especially to the Graduate School. Interim Dean Zawia dedicated meeting no. 441 in honor of Associate Dean Bibb. Council members extended their thanks and congratulations to Associate Dean Bibb.

B. Interim Dean Zawia announced a stellar response for mini-grant proposals. The Graduate School received 96 applications. Due to the high number of responses, several Council members were added to the awards committee to help review all of the proposals in a timely manner.

C. Associate Dean Killingbeck reported to Council on the Learning Outcomes Assessment workshop number one of three for the four exemplar groups and the Council Committee. Many great ideas were presented by those who attended to make the assessment a meaningful and manageable exercise. Professor Lori Ciccomascolo reported that she felt it was a positive start and that the participants are willing to do what needs to be done. Associate Dean Killingbeck also noted that in addition to workshop two and three, a forum will be held in January for the four exemplar programs, the Council Assessment Committee, and the mini-grant winners to exchange ideas so everyone continues toward the same goal. A request was made to have updates, additional information, and possibly examples be made available to departments once processes are refined.

D. Interim Dean Zawia reported on the data workshop NSF/NIH Surveys and Program Profiles: Finding the Right Numbers held on 8 December 2009. It went well and he felt it was a good opportunity for departments to meet with Institutional Research and learn how to start collecting the information required for NSF/NIH Surveys and the Program Profiles. He also noted that the Graduate School is working on a query that should help to collect some of the information needed. Reminders and the query will be sent out in January.

F. Interim Dean Zawia presented data on the Survey of Earned Doctorates.
G. Associate Dean Bibb noted recent appointments to Graduate Faculty.

- **Robert Burgess**, Adjunct Professor, Graduate School of Oceanography
- **Alexander Khain**, Adjunct Professor, Graduate School of Oceanography
- **Peter Sullivan**, Adjunct Professor, Graduate School of Oceanography
- **Gina Valentino**, Assistant Professor, Department of English
- **Rosi Braidotti**, Adjunct Professor, Department of English
- **Mary Clair**, Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Psychology
- **Dylan Kollman**, Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Psychology
- **Carlos Garcia-Quijano**, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology
- **Jason Dwyer**, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry
- **Julie Coiro**, Assistant Professor, Department of Education
- **Silvia Dorado**, Assistant Professor, College of Business Administration
- **Eske Mollgaard**, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy

**IV. Committee Reports**

A. Curriculum Committee

**Changes Approved**

- BIO 445 Endocrinology I - change in prerequisites and catalog description
- BIO 467 Animal Behavior - change in prerequisites and catalog description
- NFS 440 Macronutrient Metabolism – change in prerequisites and catalog description
- NFS 443 Nutrition Assessment - change in prerequisites, catalog description, and credits from 3 to 4
- NFS 451 Field Experience in Nutrition and Food Sciences – change in semesters offered
- NFS 452 Field Experience in Nutrition and Food Sciences – delete course
- NFS 458 Nutrition Education - change in prerequisites and catalog description
- PHT 538 Management/Administration in Physical Therapy – change in prerequisites, catalog description, and credits from 4 to 2
- NUR 503 Advanced Adult Physical Assessment – change in prerequisite, and credits from 3 to 4
- NFS 551 Macronutrients in Human Health – change in prerequisites
- NFS 552 Micronutrients in Human Health – change in prerequisites
- NFS 591 Research Problems – change in semesters offered and change in catalog description
- NFS 691 Research in Nutrition – change in semesters offered and change in catalog description

**New Courses Approved**

- NFS 441 Micronutrient Nutrition (3)
- LRS 573 Staffing Organizations (3)
- KIN540X Interdisciplinary Research in CMD (2)
- MIC/BPS 450/550 Practical Tools for Molecular Sequence Analysis (3)
OCE 500 Ocean Engineering Design Studies (1 to 6)
PHT 537 Management Theory in Physical Therapy (2)
EVS 500X Environmental Science & Management Seminar (1)

**Tabled**
EDP 613 Quantitative Analysis in Educational Research (4)
WMS 590 Special Topics in Women’s Studies (3)
CVE 477/577 Environmental Sustainability and Green Engineering (3)
NUR 504 Advanced Pediatric Physical Assessment (2)
BIO 545 Endocrinology II (3)

**Matters of Information**

A motion was approved to change the graduate course prerequisites in the Department of English to: All 500-level courses require graduate standing in a degree program or permission of instructor.

The motion for changes in graduate curriculum from Department of Nutrition and Food Science in the College of the Environment and Life Sciences was approved.

A request to attempt to offer MAF 516 (Seminar on Urban Waterfront) this summer was approved. This is a course scheduled for deletion because it has not been taught for two consecutive years nor scheduled for a third. The Council voted to retain this course if it gains enough enrollment to be taught this summer, but to delete the course if it does not.

**B. New Program Committee**

Professor Martin Sadd submitted a two-part proposal for Mechanical, Industrial and Systems Engineering. Part one was the creation of a doctoral program in Mechanical, Industrial and Systems Engineering. Part two was the deletion of the two existing doctoral programs in Mechanical Engineering and Industrial and Systems Engineering. Both parts were treated as separate motions and both were approved.

**C. Graduate Manual Revision Committee**

The revision of Section 7 of the Graduate School Manual completed by the Graduate Manual Revision Committee was reviewed and approved pending minor editorial changes.

**VI. New Business**

A. Discussion regarding the current University policy of deleting a course if it has not been offered for two years and is not scheduled for a third was tabled until the next meeting.
B. Associate Dean Harold Bibb was thanked by Associate Dean Killingbeck, Interim Dean Zawia and the entire Graduate Council. Associate Dean Bibb took a few moments to thank the staff of the Graduate School, Associate Dean Killingbeck, Interim Dean Zawia and the Council for the pleasure of working with all mentioned.

VII. Old Business

VIII. The meeting adjourned at 3:49 p.m.