

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL FOR GRADUATE STUDIES  
AND RESEARCH**

**MINUTES, Meeting No. 333**

**6 September 2002  
2:00 p.m., Mitchell 223**

PRESENT: L. Bennett (CAS), J. Campbell (COMM), B. Ching (ENGL), J. Clay (PADM), D. Franceschetti (PHYS), W. Janna (ENGR), J. Johnston (ICL), C. Jones (FCOBE), D. Kemme (ECON), K. Kreitner (MUSIC), C. Langstraat (ACCT), M. Logan (CCFA), J. Mo (MECH), J. Phillips (GSA), E. Rakow (COE), S. Slack (BIOM), L. Weiss (HMSE), K. Weddle-West (AVPGS)

ABSENT: P. Bridson (VPR), D. Wark (AUSP, proxy K. Weddle-West)

GUESTS: Lorraine Allen (GS), S. Brackstone (Ext. Prog.), J. Brownlee (GS), M. Luttrell (LSON), G. Shiba (LSON)

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm.

333.1 L. Bennett moved (2/M. Logan) that the minutes of Meeting No. 332, 3 May 2002 be approved. The motion was carried by voice vote.

333.2 Announcements

333.2.1 Clarification of IP grading policy:

333.2.1.a The procedure for developmental courses—such as psychology practica (clinical and school psychology already do this) internships, student teaching, other projects courses—that require 9-18 hours credit is to process a grade change for the total number of required hours after the student has completed them. The graduate coordinator should send Michelle Stout a list of the students (with SSN, course numbers, and hours) after they have finished.

333.2.1.b Although an “I” cannot be awarded in an “IP” course, an “IP” can be changed to a grade without the student re-enrolling if there is sufficient cause—but this should not happen often at all. See minutes of Meeting No 332 (May 2002). The grade change form is maintained by the Registrar’s office so we cannot change it, but there is a section for “Other.”

333.2.2. Problems to be Addressed in Section 2 of Next Catalog (discussion and/or vote will continue at next meeting):

333.2.2.a. Address discrepancy between pass requirements for master’s comps (1 dissenting vote OK) and for the thesis defense (must be unanimous). It’s a problem if the defense is used in place of the comp.

333.2.2.b There is no central location where information can be found on the many various ways comprehensive exams are administered and evaluated. This lack of information was a weak point in the last SACS review and needs to be addressed. So the Graduate School is asking each department to write down their protocol for administering comps; include requirements for culminating experiences that are used in place of comps. Strengthen statement about administering comps only to students in good standing—Michelle recently has noticed students on probation taking comps. A template with the points that should be addressed will be e-mailed to the Council for their comments.

333.2.2.c. Should a limit be established for the number of 6000 and 7000 level courses that apply to a doctoral degree?

333.2.3 K. Weddle-West introduced the new president of the Graduate Student Association, Jason Phillips (PhD candidate in Communication). He in turn explained his plans for reactivating the GSA and asked each college to nominate 2 graduate students by 20 September, who would serve on a GSA Council. The ultimate goal of the association is to increase the influence of graduate students on campus and at TBR while increasing the sense of community among graduate students. If the GSA has a strong presence in the Student Government, more funds will be channeled toward graduate student needs. There is also the possibility that, with a strong GSA, the student fees that graduate students pay could be assigned to the GSA instead of the SGA.

### 333.3 Discussion Item

333.3.1. Proposal for a new Graduate Faculty category: Research Mentor. This new category would allow scholars who are not at The University of Memphis to co-chair a particular thesis or dissertation committee. K. Weddle-West stressed that the key word is to CO-chair. This proposal elicited a good deal of discussion, mainly dealing with the proliferation of graduate faculty categories. Several suggestions were made for ways to re-structure the Adjunct category to include this; other Council members felt that the new category would carry more cachet than the old Adjunct. The suggestion was made and widely agreed with to rename the category Research Co-Mentor in order to assure that control of the committee remains with University faculty. This proposal was tabled for further thought.

### 333.4 Old Business—None

### 333.5 New Business

333.5.1 Proposal for a Master of Science in Nursing degree was presented by M. Luttrell and G. Shiba of the Loewenberg School of Nursing. The proposal elicited a great deal of discussion. A number of questions were raised about the possible impact on the undergraduate program if no new faculty are hired to teach the 29 proposed new courses. One member pointed out that tuition revenue from the expected 20 new graduate students ought to be used to offset the costs of paying full-time faculty summer salaries and paying clinical and other part-time faculty to teach more courses. It was also asked whether a formal survey of student interest had been conducted. One member pointed

out that it was very difficult to get increased resources after a program has been approved on the basis that it will require no new costs. Another member asked if the Council should consider the budget; K. Weddle-West replied that the Council should consider the whole package, including budget. It was suggested that this be proposed as another premium tuition program. Since the proposal was distributed at the meeting, K. Weddle-West requested that Council members think about it and e-mail her with comments and questions. Hopefully it can be voted on at the October meeting.

333.5.2 Proposal to delete concentrations for MBA degree. Currently the MBA concentrations only require 9 hours each and so are not real concentrations. The MBA was originally conceived as a generalist degree and this will return the degree to its original goal. The IMBA, EMBA, and the joint MBA/JD concentrations are not affected by this proposal. The proposal was approved with very little discussion.

333.6 J. Haddock (VP Acad Aff) brought the Council up to date on the TBR low-producing-program review. Nine doctoral and 9 masters programs have been identified and will be discussed at a meeting on 15 October. He will keep the Council abreast of all decisions.

333.7 Distribution Items

Minutes of Meeting No. 332, May 2002 (Agenda item 333.1)

Notes on inconsistencies among master's comps, theses, and culminating experiences (Agenda item 333.2.2.a)

Goals of GSA and process of selecting representatives

Council address list

Curricular Revisions to close 7 MBA concentrations

Proposal for MSN in Loewenberg School of Nursing

Information from GRE:

On irregularities in Verbal scores from some countries

On new Writing Assessment test

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nancy Hurley, 9/6/02