

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL FOR GRADUATE STUDIES  
AND RESEARCH**

**MINUTES  
12 December 1997**

16 present

Dr. Brinkley provided an overview of the Council of Graduate Schools meeting in Washington and distributed an article by George Lapedes. She stated that the good news in FY 1998 is that Congress is friendly to higher education, but there is uncertainty about the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. Support for graduate students seems low as the level of awareness about graduate school is poor.

The future of higher education may be in collaboration/partnering between institutions and/or interdisciplinary or hybrid degree programs.

It may be a good idea for this group and the graduate coordinators to meet with industrial leaders to discuss ways for us to become more visible and encourage relationships with graduate students.

Dr. Horgan distributed President Rawlin's response to an article from the Commercial Appeal about our report card. She also distributed summaries of Performance Funding and a CGS article on certificates, noting the importance for the Council to understand both.

One of the results of the student satisfaction inventory is that there is not enough information on graduate assistantship availability. We need a systematic way of getting this information to the students, as well as disseminating information about available internships.

Dr. Horgan asked everyone to review the Graduate Curriculum Requests before the next meeting, which will be January 21 and 23.

Enforcement of admission deadlines was discussed as far as the department deadlines vs. the University deadlines. It was suggested that the catalog should have a statement (The Graduate School adheres to departmental deadlines. To ensure consideration, ...) Dr. Horgan will draft a revision to be considered with other catalog changes.

Discussed the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies and the request to waive the GRE for admission. Etheridge moved to approve a waiver for admission to the MALS program. Daley seconded. Motion passed unanimously. There was further discussion about transferring six hours or nine hours. Janikowski moved to approve the MALS program with nine hours transferring rather than six. Daley seconded. Question was called and the motion passed with one vote opposed.

As Dr. Crump is retiring in March, there will be discussions about international admissions.

Mr. Pipkin's office pulled information about graduate assistantships to see what they are costing. Dr. Brinkley will continue to monitor this issue.

The SCT web-based applications module is problematic since it lacks flexibility we need for graduate admissions. For now, the Graduate School will therefore create its own form for admissions on the web.

Meeting adjourned.