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## Academic Policy Committee Report - February 17, 2011

Graduate Council

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ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 17, 2011  
2:15 PM – 3:30 PM  
111 STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING

REPORT

PRESENT: Stefanie Ohnesorg (Chair), Ralph Brockett, Yanfei Gao, Camille Hall, Bob Hatcher, LeAnn Luna, Andrew Morse, Peggy Pierce, Kay Reed, Songning Zhang.

The meeting was called to order by Stefanie Ohnesorg, Chair, at 2:15 p.m. in 111 Student Services Building, Graduate School Conference Room.

1. Results of Electronic Vote on 5-Year BS-MS degree programs. Votes were received and the exceptions were approved by this vote so that the proposals for Nuclear Engineering and Physics programs could go forward to the Curriculum Committee and Graduate Council. Some members stated objections regarding the language presented for the proposals. (Information Item only)
2. Changes in Registration Deadlines.

The committee reviewed a change in the undergraduate course registration withdrawal deadline. The Undergraduate Council had recently approved a change in the course registration withdrawal deadline to the 84<sup>th</sup> calendar day of the semester for undergraduate students. The graduate “Drop Course with W” is already in the Graduate Catalog with a deadline of the 84<sup>th</sup> calendar day.

3. Proposed Bylaws Change to Article IV Meetings, Decision-Making and Reporting, Section 2 Agenda.

The committee discussed a proposed change to the bylaws concerning the deadline for agenda items. The committee voted to recommend the following change to Graduate Council for approval:

The committee chair, in cooperation with the liaison from the Graduate School, prepares the agenda. Input for the agenda may be provided by members of the committee, the Dean of the Graduate School, the Graduate Deans Group, and the members of Graduate Council. Faculty and students are encouraged to present items for the agenda through direct contact with their Graduate Council representatives or to the committee chair. **All proposed agenda items related to curricula must be presented to the committee chair no later than two weeks prior to the meeting.**

This proposed change will be presented to the Graduate Council on Thursday, March 3, 2011, and then brought back for a vote of the Graduate Council on April 14, 2011 since it concerns bylaws.

4. Doctoral Committee Proposal.

The committee reviewed the version of the doctoral committee proposal that was sent to Graduate Council on September 23, 2010. A plan for looking into two areas – timing of the committee appointment and outside membership – was begun.

5. Registration for Course 600 and Continuous Registration.

The committee discussed the following recommendation:

Course 600 is reserved for doctoral research and dissertation hours. Initial registration for 600 should be determined by each department and generally corresponds to the time at which a student begins work actively on dissertation research. From this time on, students are required to register continuously for at least 3 hours of 600 each semester, ~~including~~ **excluding** summer term. A minimum total of 24 hours of course 600 is required.

A student who will not be using faculty services and/or university facilities for a period of time may request leaves of absence from dissertation research up to a maximum of six terms. ~~(including summer terms)~~. The request, approved by the ~~major professor~~ **director of graduate studies in the academic unit, needs to be made on the leave of absence from continuous registration of 600 form and** will be submitted by the student and filed in **to** the Graduate School.

Issues were identified as needing further exploration: Health insurance for graduate assistants, eligibility to hold a graduate assistantship without registration, benefits to faculty and the administration.

The issue will be brought back to the agenda of the APC for the April 7, 2011 meeting.

6. Thoughts on PHD Oral Exam. This item will return to the agenda for the April 7, 2011 meeting.