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Academic Policy Committee Report - November 11, 2010

Graduate Council

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ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2010, 2:15 – 3:30 PM
111 STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING

Present: Stefanie Ohnesorg, Michael Essington, Andrew Morse, Songning Zhang, Leann Luna, Christian Parigger, Ralph Brockett, Kay Reed, Bob Hatcher, Marian Roman. Also present to present proposals: Masood Parang, Jon Levin.

The meeting was called to order by Stefanie Ohnesorg, Chair, at 2:15 PM in 111 Student Services Building.

The committee discussed the following items:

1. Non-degree graduate student advising policy.

The Graduate School proposed the following statement to replace the current policy statement published in the Graduate Catalog on non-degree graduate student advising.

Proposed:

Non-degree graduate students do not have academic advisors since they are not affiliated with an academic unit and faculty. Non-degree graduate students may consult the director of graduate studies in the appropriate academic unit(s) for course options.

Current:

Every graduate student must meet with an academic advisor at least once each semester to discuss his/her program. For non-degree students with a declared major, the advisor must be from the appropriate academic unit. If no advisor has been assigned, the department head or designee is the advisor. For a non-degree student who has no declared major, the Dean of the Graduate School or designee is the advisor.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed statement to replace the current one. The motion carried.

2. Policy statement on immunization requirement by the State of Tennessee (information only). The statement will appear in the Graduate Catalog in the section of federal and state regulations as "Immunization Requirements and Student Health Center."

The State of Tennessee has three immunization requirements for students attending state colleges and universities.

- Measles, mumps and rubella – all students born after January 1, 1957, must provide proof of immunization with two doses of measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine.

- Hepatitis – New incoming students must be vaccinated against Hepatitis B or complete a waiver form acknowledging that they have elected not to be vaccinated.
- Meningitis – New incoming students, who live in on-campus housing, must be vaccinated against meningococcal disease or complete a waiver form acknowledging that they have elected not to be vaccinated.

This documentation must be provided to the Student Health Service. In addition, Student Health Service recommends that entering college students assure immunity to tetanus/diphtheria, polio, and chicken pox.

Important Notice: Students who are not in compliance will have a “hold” placed on their enrollment until they have either met the immunization requirements or have initiated and/or continued the immunization process for the multi-injection immunizations.

Health services provided by the university are available to any student who has paid the health fee (either through paying the full University Programs and Services Fee or, if taking fewer than 9 but at least 3 hours, paying the optional health fee). These out-patient services are available continually throughout every term. The health clinic located at 1818 Andy Holt Avenue is open from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday (Wednesday – 9:00 am to 4:30 pm). While urgent-care needs may be handled on a walk-in basis, appointments should be made in most instances. The Student Health Service will cooperate with students and family physicians in ensuring the continuity of quality health care during the university career.

3. BS/MS 5-year Program for Materials Science and Engineering. The committee reviewed and approved the following request for exception to allow this program to use course credit for 6 hours to meet degree requirements at the graduate and undergraduate levels. The program is presented here:

ADD FIVE YEAR BS-MS PROGRAM INFORMATION FOR MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

The department offers a 5-year BS-MS program with a BS (major in materials science and engineering) and an MS (major in materials science and engineering or polymer engineering) for qualified students. The primary component of the program is that qualified students may take up to 9 hours of approved graduate courses for their senior undergraduate electives and have them count toward both their bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the University of Tennessee. This program is designed for students attending the University of Tennessee for their Master of Science degree because other universities may not accept these courses for graduate credit since they were used to satisfy requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree. Significant components of the program are:

Students must have an overall GPA of 3.4 in required course work. Conditional admission to the 5-year program may be granted after completion of 65 hours of required course work, while full admission may be granted after the completion of 96 hours of required course work with a minimum GPA of 3.4.

Admission must be approved by the department and the Graduate School.

Students must at least be conditionally admitted to the program prior to taking courses that receive credit for both the BS and MS degrees.

All courses taken for graduate credit must be approved by the graduate program director. Students admitted to the program must request permission from the Graduate School to take approved courses for graduate credit. Students admitted to the program must also follow the normal procedure for admission to the Graduate School.

Students will not be eligible for assistantships until they are enrolled as graduate-level students in the Graduate School.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Rationale: To update the program description to reflect newly added programs. Impact on other academic units: None. Financial impact: None.

4. BS/MS 5-year Program for Nuclear Engineering – committee asked for revision on proposal so that it matches other engineering BS/MS 5-year programs.
5. BS/MS 5-year Program for Physics. BS Engineering (Physics Minor)/MS Physics – 5-year program – After the review of the proposal, the committee requested that the Faculty from the Department of Physics rework the statement and send to Academic Policy Committee for review.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.