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Academic Policy Committee Report - October 16, 2008

Graduate Council

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ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE
Thursday, October 16, 2008, 2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.
4th Floor Conference Room, Andy Holt Tower

Present: Stefanie Ohnesorg (Chair), Ralph Brockett, Mark DeKay, Yanfei Gao, Robert Hatcher, Julie Lynch, Sandra McGuire, Kay Reed. Karen Sowers and Cynthia Rocha were present

The meeting was called to order by Stefanie Ohnesorg at 2:15 p.m.

1. Proposal from College of Social Work.

The committee discussed a proposal by the College of Social Work concerning an exception to the policy on graduate teaching associates who would be allowed to teach other graduate students.

Cynthia Rocha, Associate Dean of the College of Social Work, asked for an exception on the policy as present in the 2008-2009 Graduate Catalog on page 22. The rationale for the change was to allow doctoral students in their program to have experience in teaching since the opportunity to teach at the undergraduate level is limited. She and Dean Karen Sowers noted that the most recent program review had recommended that the doctoral students have more development opportunities in the teaching area.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the following change to the policy:

2008-2009 Graduate Catalog, page 22, left column, second paragraph under Registration and Enrollment Requirements (addition **bolded and underscored**)

Graduate Credit

Courses numbered at the 500 level, as well as those 400-level courses approved for graduate credit, must be taught by faculty members who 1) meet the criteria of an assistant professor or above as defined in the Faculty Handbook and 2) have been designated by the department head as being appropriate. Graduate teaching associates are ineligible to teach courses approved for graduate credit, **unless they are in a post-professional degree program where the terminal degree is a Master's degree and has been approved by the Graduate Council as an exception.**

The motion carried. The committee recommended that the College of Social Work now come back to the Academic Policy Committee and the Curriculum Committee together with a request for exception to be approved and placed in the Graduate Catalog text for their program description.

<p>NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2009, 2:15 P.M. – 3:15 P.M. 4th FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, ANDY HOLT TOWER</p>
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2. Sandra McGuire asked for a clarification of the policy on correspondence courses not being accepted for graduate credit. That policy is found in the 2008-2009 Graduate Catalog on page 23, left column. With many changes in recent modes of delivery of graduate courses, the committee recommended that the policy be reviewed.
3. Bylaws and Operating Procedures.

Ohnesorg asked that the committee note any discrepancies or questionable parts of the committee bylaws for discussion at the next meeting.