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Academic Policy Committee Report - September 23, 2004

Graduate Council

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ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2004
4TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, ANDY HOLT TOWER

Present: Charles Feigerle (Chair), Michael Keene, Matthew Murray, Mary Papke, Kay Reed, Thomas Turner, Belle Upadhyaya, Stefanie Ohnesorg.

The meeting was called to order by Charles Feigerle, Chair, at 2:00 p.m. Feigerle welcomed the committee members to a new year of work and reviewed the role of the committee in reporting to the Graduate Council. To facilitate review of proposed policy changes and discussion of proposals, the committee will use a Blackboard site.

1. Minimum Class Size Policy.

One of the colleges had asked that this standing university policy, currently published in the Undergraduate Catalog, be included in the Graduate Catalog.

An undergraduate course will not normally be given for fewer than fifteen students at the lower division; twelve at the upper division; and nine at the graduate level except by permission of the Chancellor. The university reserves the right to cancel, postpone, or combine classes when necessary.

During discussion of the policy, several members expressed opinions against including this statement since this is an administrative policy and not suited for the purposes of the Graduate Catalog.

2. Time Limits for Graduate Assistantships.

The committee discussed the following proposed policy statement on time limits for graduate assistantships:

Time limits for participation in the graduate fee waiver/health insurance benefit programs are as follows:

1. Students in a master's program are limited to three years of fee/health insurance benefit support.
2. Students in a doctoral program are limited to five years beyond the Master's degree of fee/health insurance benefit support.

Departments or programs may impose stricter limits on fee/health insurance benefit support. Established time limits for completion of graduate programs—six years for a Master's program and eight years for a doctoral program—still apply.

This proposal was endorsed by the Graduate Deans' Group. Before making a recommendation to the Graduate Council, the committee will continue the discussion of the policy with the goal of highlighting the time limits and cleaning up the existing policy statement in the Graduate Catalog (page 43, Policy for the Administration of Graduate Assistantships).

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.