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Academic Policy Committee Report - April 10, 2003

Graduate Council

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ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2003, 3:30 P.M.

4th Floor AHT

Members Attending: Wayne Davis (Chair), Bob Auge, Anne Mayhew, Stefanie Ohnesorg, Kay Reed, Thomas Turner.

1. Information on Policy for patents, copyrights, licensing.

A recommendation was made by Dr. Linda Painter, Associate Provost, and Ms. Alice Woody, from the General Counsel's Office, to include the UT "Statement of Policy on Patents, Copyrights, Licensing" in the Graduate Catalog policy statement on Theses and Dissertations. This statement will appear in the next edition of the Graduate Catalog.

2. Policies related to dissertation hour requirements.

Dr. Greer Fox, a Graduate Council representative, raised a question about the minimum number of hours required for dissertation at UT's peer institutions. A table of the responses is attached, along with information on the requirement for continuous registration.

Following that presentation of information and a discussion of the current requirement of dissertation hours, the committee concluded that the policy on dissertation hour requirements does not need to be changed.

3. Definition of cognate.

Dr. Thomas George, from the College of Education, Health and Human Sciences, raised a question about what constitutes a doctoral cognate. The committee reviewed the statement in the Graduate Catalog and concluded that the unit referred to in the definition should be defined by the College and is probably defined as an academic department.

4. Repeating a course for graduate credit.

The committee returned to the discussion of the policy related to repeating graduate courses for credit. Members of the committee had polled their colleagues and determined that many faculty members did not advise changing the policy to allow graduate

students to repeat a course for credit. The committee recommended that if a course is out of date on a student's admission to candidacy, that consideration be given for an exception to allow the student to repeat a course in that case.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

NEXT MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE WILL BE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2003, 4th FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, AHT

Doctoral Dissertation Requirements of Peer Institutions

Institution	Minimum Hours Required	Continuous Registration	Statement	Contact Information
University of Alabama	6	Not indicated in catalogue	Left message at Graduate Studies office	205-348-5921
University of Arkansas	18	Yes	"For each semester in which a student fails to register without prior approval of the Dean of Graduate Studies, registration of 3 hours will be required before degree is granted" (from catalogue)	479-575-5555
Auburn University	10	Not indicated in catalogue	Left message at Graduate Studies office	334-844-4700
Clemson University	18	No	Office of Graduate Studies: "There is no requirement to continuously register for Dissertation Research hours at this time, but the student must be registered for Dissertation Research hours in the semester that they plan to graduate."	864-656-3195
University of Florida	No minimum hours required	No	Office of graduate Studies: "The only registration requirement for Dissertation Students is 3 hours in the Fall and Spring and 2 hours in the Summer; generally by the time that the students reach dissertation research hours they are going to continuously register, but we have no policy requiring such."	352-392-9271

University of Georgia	3	No	Office of Graduate Studies Director: "No continuous registration at this time, but they are considering that possibility. The individual departments set dissertation hours requirements."	706-542-4803
Georgia Tech	Not indicated in catalogue	Not indicated in catalogue	Left message at Graduate Studies office	404-894-3090
University of Illinois	No minimum hours required	No	Office of Graduate Studies Director: "Departments decide hours required for dissertation hours. Fall/Spring continuous registration is recommended, but not required. Zero credit registration is allowed after required number of "units" are met, as well as registration for "thesis" through Graduate School not department for financial aide situations. MS/PhD combination and terminal MS options available."	217-265-8181
Kent State University	20	Yes	Bill Anderson of Graduate School: "20 hours are required to graduate with a disseration. The hours are required to be taken continuously until graduation, including summers."	330-672-3012
University of Maryland	No minimum hours required	No	"Departments establish required dissertation hours and there is no continuous dissertation hours registration requirement."	301-405-4198

Mississippi State University	20	No	Dale Welch of Graduate Studies Office: "The student is not required to register continuously for dissertation hours once they have begun registering for those hours, but continuous general enrollment is required for two of the three semesters each year once the student has passed the Preliminary exams."	662-325-7392
University of North Carolina	6	No	Office of Graduate Studies: "There is no continuous registration requirement for Doctoral Dissertation hours at this time."	919-962-2211
North Carolina State University	No minimum hours required	No	Director of Graduate Studies, Dr. Rufe: "Once the student has passed the Preliminary Exams the dissertation hours are available to be taken, but there is no minimum number to be taken and they do not have to continuously register. There is a 10 year timetable for completion though."	919-515-1989
University of Oklahoma	No minimum hours required	Yes	"Unless the student is not using university resources (this must be approved by the advisor) the student is required to register for at least 2 dissertation hours each semester until graduation once they have begun dissertation research hours."	405-271-2085
University of South Carolina	12	Not indicated in catalogue	Left message at Graduate Studies office	803-777-7000

University of Texas @ Austin	3	Yes	"Students must register for a 2 semester dissertation sequence (continuous) each semester requiring at min. 3 hours of dissertation credit."	512-471-4511/-3833
Virginia Tech	30 min/60 max (total hours, no minimum dissertation hours required re: Graduate Studies Advisor)	Not indicated in catalogue	Left message at Graduate Studies Office for the Graduate Studies Director re: specifics about dissertation requirements	540-231-6000