

Graduate Policy Committee

2012-2013 Annual Report

As in past years, the graduate policy committee conducted work in three main areas this year: (1) the review of graduate programs across campus, (2) the consideration of new graduate program proposals, and (3) the discussion of graduate academic policies that affect university-wide programs.

ad (1): Due in part to the on-going SACS review, only four programs were reviewed by the GPC in 2012/2013: Mathematics and Actuarial Science, Scientific Computing, Statistics and Biostatistics, and Modern Languages and Linguistics. Look for a much heavier season of reviews next year, with twelve programs scheduled for review.

ad (2): Five proposals for new programs were reviewed. The College of Applied Studies at FSU's Panama City campus put forward a proposal for a new MS in Corporate & Public Communication. The College of Social Sciences and Public Policy is working on a full blown proposal for a new MS in Applied Economics; the FSU Panama, Republic of Panama Campus proposed an MS in International Affairs, and at the final GPC meeting of the year considered two new proposals from the College of Law (MSL and 3 + 3).

ad (3):

The GPC conducted extended discussions of a number of policy issues related to graduate programs, some of which were taken up for the first time this year. Four of the latter were subsequently approved by the Faculty Senate, either in full committee or as a Steering Committee action.

1) Policy on Graduate Faculty Membership for colleagues in the College of Law:

**Special case of the College of Law**

In addition, Graduate Teaching Status (GTS), Co-Doctoral Directive Status (CDDS), and Co-Master's Directive Status (CMDS) are automatically granted to faculty members in the College of Law who hold tenure track appointments and possess an appropriate terminal degree (e.g., J.D.). The rationale for this policy is that these faculty are hired for the purpose of only educating post-baccalaureate students, unlike other segments of the university where faculty are hired to teach undergraduates and must be granted GFS or GTS to teach graduate students and engage in graduate education activities in their disciplines. A tenured faculty member in the College of Law cannot serve as an official University Representative on a doctoral committee unless GFS is awarded to that faculty member by an eligible graduate program. However, since this policy also grants CDDS and CMDS to College of Law faculty they can serve on master's and doctoral committees and co-advise a student in an official capacity though they cannot count towards the minimum number of GFS members required for such committees. (Approved as a Steering Committee action.)

2) Policy pertaining to the residency requirements for the Doctor of Nursing Practice program:

The College of Education and the art education program in the College of Visual Arts and Dance permit Ed.D. students, if they so desire, to complete their residency requirement by registering for thirty credits during a consecutive sixteen-month period. The College of Nursing and the Doctor of Nursing Practice program permit DNP students, if they so desire, to complete their residency requirement by registering for twenty-four credits during a consecutive sixteen-month period. (Approved as a Steering Committee action.)

3) New Language to be added to the section in the General Bulletin pertaining to the Review of Theses, Treatises, and Dissertations for Academic Integrity and Advisement:

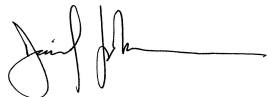
Theses, treatises, and dissertations are expected to reflect original work. The review of academic integrity should be completed prior to the defense. Faculty may choose to use appropriate plagiarism checkers and peer review tools with early drafts of these manuscripts as an instructional aid in advising students on matters relating to plagiarism. The signatures of all committee members appearing on the Manuscript Signature Approval Form constitute testimony from the committee that they are satisfied that the dissertation meets FSU's standards of academic integrity as described in the FSU Academic Honor Code and that appropriate steps have been taken to assure that this is the case. (Approved as a Steering Committee action.)

4) A new transfer policy for the College of Medicine. The College of Medicine has to date never accepted a transfer student, but has no formal, written policy. The latter is required by SACS. In consultation with the College of Medicine and following discussion in the GPC, the following language is proposed:

Transfer credits for a student pursuing the MD degree

In rare cases a student may petition to be accepted to the COM and transfer credits from another institution. Transfer credits will be considered only for the first year or second year courses. Requests for credit will be evaluated on a course-by-course basis, and the College of Medicine reserves the right to determine which credits would be accepted. Transfer credit will be limited to a maximum of the equivalent of two years of coursework. (Approved at the Faculty Senate meeting of 4.24.2013)

For the GPC,



David F. Johnson