

UNL GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting of February 13, 2014

The UNL Graduate Council convened at 3:30 p.m. in Room 206 of Seaton Hall. Present were: Professors Shannon Bartelt-Hunt, Rhonda Fuelberth, Rita Kean, Jody Redepinning, Melanie Simpson, and Mark van Roojen; student representatives Anh Do and Jacob Friefeld; Ex-officio members: Dean Lance Pérez and Associate Dean Laurie Bellows; Jane Schneider, Office of Graduate Studies; Guests: Professors Gordon Karels and Lily Wang. Members absent: Professors Jon Pedersen and David Smith. Dean Lance Pérez presided.

Approval of October 10, 2013 Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Proposal for a specialization in Business Administration within the Master of Arts in Business

A motion was made and seconded to approve a specialization in Business Administration within the Master of Arts in Business. Motion passed unanimously.

Proposal for a specialization in Intercollegiate Athletics Administration within the Master of Arts in Business

A motion was made and seconded to approve a specialization in Intercollegiate Athletics Administration within the Master of Arts in Business. Motion passed unanimously.

Proposal for a name change for the Master of Science in Construction to Construction Engineering and Management and the specialization in Construction to Construction Engineering and Management for the PhD in Engineering

A motion was made and seconded to approve a name change for 1) the Master of Science in Construction to Construction Engineering and Management and 2) the specialization in Construction to Construction Engineering and Management for the PhD in Engineering. Motion passed unanimously.

Proposal to change the name of the Masters of Engineering (M.Eng) to Masters of Engineering Management.

A motion was made and seconded to approve a name change for the Masters of Engineering (M.Eng) to Masters of Engineering Management. In addition to the name change, the College of Engineering is requesting that the required hours for this Option II degree be reduced from 36 hours to 30 hours. Motion passed unanimously.

Minimum Graduate Assistant Stipend Levels

Dean Perez announced that the minimum graduate assistant stipend levels have been raised 6% for the 2014-2015 year. The 2014-15 Guidelines for Graduate Assistantships will be published on the Graduate Studies web site and sent to departments.

GSA Report

Jacob Friefeld, GSA President reported on current activities:

- Graduate Student Appreciate Week will be held April 7–11, 2014.
- The Midwest Science and Research Fair, a combined effort with UNL, UNMC and Creighton, will be held March 1, 2014. The fair will have booths with vendors and prospective employers.

Announcements

- 2014 Spring Research Fair: Associate Dean Laurie Bellows said that the 2014 Spring Research Fair will be held April 14-15, 2014. There is a limited schedule this year so that faculty will be able to attend the poster session. Posters will be judged by graduate faculty. Travel awards will be given for the top two entries in each of the eight areas represented by the UNL Graduate Council. This year students may enter digital posters.

The Undergraduate poster session will be on April 17, 2014 at 2 PM.

- Dean Lance Pérez gave an update about student health care. There will be two options for students:
 1. An RFP has gone out for the student health insurance plan and six proposals were received. A decision about the provider will be made by April 1, 2014. The pre-existing condition clause will be eliminated to satisfy requirements for the Affordable Care Act (ACA).
 2. In addition to the student health insurance plan, students will be offered a choice of signing up for the “Bronze Plan,” which is the employee health insurance plan. This will help satisfy ACA requirements in case students will be reclassified during the coming year as employees.

There is a committee working on finding an affordable family plan for students.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM