**Graduate Council**

**Minutes**

**September 14, 2012**

The Graduate Council met Friday, September 14, 2012 at 1:00 pm in the Dogwood Room of the University Center.

Members present: S. Alspaw, L. Comer, K. Cooper-Duffy, Todd Creasy, A. Debo, M. Fenton, S. Ha, B. Kloeppel, K. Lunnen, A. Malesky, E. McNelis, P. Robertson, D. Russell, D. Sally, E. Spell, S. Swanger, and M. Tanaka

Members absent: G. Graham and K. Topolka-Jorissen

Others present: J. Neubrander, B. Ogletree and E. Frazier

**Announcements** The announcements were distributed as an electronic handout for the meeting. Graduate Council members were encouraged to submit announcements and to provide feedback on how to make Graduate Council meetings more efficient.

**Approval of the Minutes** Motion and second to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2012 meeting. Motion passed.

**Standing Committee Reports**

 **Graduate Faculty Review**

 The following persons were approved by the Graduate Faculty Review Committee as members of the graduate faculty and came as aseconded motion for approval.

 Denise Drury Art and Design Associate

 Amy Houk Human Services Associate

 **Motion passed.**

 **Curriculum Review**

The following curriculum items were reviewed by the Curriculum Committee and came as aseconded motion. Dr. Judy Neubrander attended to respond to questions about the proposed Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

 **AA-6:**

 Nurse Educator Post Master’s Certificate Program

Eliminate MHS or alternate from course of study and insert new course NSG 583 Clinical Specialty and existing course NSG 648 Nursing Administration in Health Care Organizations. Increases total number of credit hours from 18 to 19 in the certificate.

The changes are needed to keep program in line with accrediting body recommendation and national standards for nurse educator competencies. This change will strengthen the preparation of nurse educator students for faculty leadership roles. Preparation of increased numbers of new nursing faculty is a goal of the University (response to UNC tomorrow), the UNC system, and the College of Health and Human Sciences.

 Doctor of Nursing Practice Program

 This program will be offered through a consortium between WCU and UNCC, using shared resources. Students will

 enroll in one university but take courses at both. The enrolling institution will award the degree. A memorandum of

 understanding was signed between WCU and UNCC in spring of 2010 (attached). The DNP degree will be required

 by Nurse Anesthetists by 2025 and by Nurse Practitioner soon thereafter. The DNP will replace the master’s degree

 for nurse anesthetists, family nurse practitioners, and nurse administrators at WCU. Initially a post-masters DNP will

 be offered, then transition to a post-baccalaureate DNP (for which planning will occur later). WCU will retain the

 nurse educator master’s program. WCU and UNCC have received approval to plan from General Administration of the

 UNC system.

 **AA-5:**

 PSC 507 Political Parties, Campaigns, and Elections (3)

 NSG 583 Clinical Specialization for Nurse Educators (2)

 NSG 687 Practicum in Nursing Education (2)

 NSG 802 Community Epidemiology (3)

 NSG 814 Foundations and Applications of Evidence-Based Practice (3)

 NSG 815 Healthcare Program Evaluation and Quality(3)

 NSG 816 Global Health and Social Justice (3)

 NSG 817 Applied Biostatistics(3)

 NSG 818 Leadership and Project Planning(3)

 NSG 822 Health Care Policy and Ethics (3)

 NSG 823 Economic and Financial Aspects of Healthcare Systems(3)

 NSG 826 Leadership and Health Care Systems (3)

 NSG 827 Communication and Technology for Transforming Healthcare (3)

 NSG 883 Clinical Residency and Project Development I (2)

 NSG 884 Clinical Residency and Project Development II (2)

 NSG 885 Clinical Residency and Project Development III (3)

 NSG 886 Clinical Residency and Project Development IV (2)

 **Motion passed.**

Interim Dean Fenton updated the Graduate Council on the revisions to the Ed.D. curriculum. The program which has been on inactive status will begin admitting students again in the 2013 summer term. A steering committee is currently working on the program revisions and the new curriculum.

 **Academic Program & Policy Review**

The proposed policy to increase the maximum course load for doctoral students from 15 credit hours to 19 credit hours passed the Academic Policy and Review Committee of the Faculty Senate.

 **Student Financial Aid**

 The Graduate Council Student Financial Aid Committee reported it had awarded eight Chancellor’s Fellowships of $6000 ($48,000 total) and twenty Study Grants of $750 ($15,000) for the 2012-13 academic year. The committee will review the application and selection procedures for these awards during the 2012-13 academic year to see if changes to the procedures need to be made.

**Agenda Items**

**Report from Dr. Bill Ogletree about a collaborative doctoral program with UNC-Greensboro:**

Dr. Bill Ogletree presented information to the Graduate Council about a collaborative Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) doctoral program with UNC-Greensboro. Dr. Ogletree reported that there is a state-wide and nation-wide shortage of doctoral level Communication Sciences and Disorders professionals. In 2006, UNC-Greensboro approached WCU to collaborate on a Ph.D. program in Communication Sciences and Disorders in response to a 20006 strategic planning initiative.

The 66 credit hour doctoral program has been approved by UNC-Greensboro. Both schools are currently waiting on an approved memo of understanding with plans to begin offering the program beginning in the 2013 fall term. WCU will participate in existing courses such as statistics and core content courses so no new courses will be necessary. WCU will have a representative on the admissions committee. Two to three students will be admitted each year. Ten students recently attended an information session about the program.

When asked why WCU was interested in collaborating in a doctoral program at UNC-Greensboro, Dr. Ogletree responded that the program would improve service to the region and help to recruit new CSD faculty because the UNC-Greensboro doctoral students are being [prepared to work in mid-size CSD programs like the program at WCU. When asked about the cost to WCU, Dr. Ogletree responded that one WCU faculty member would serve on a dissertation committee and WCU faculty would teach courses in the program. Discussions were ongoing regarding an advisor liaison position and the negotiation of fees.

**Discussion to add a staff member to the Graduate Council:**

Graduate Council was asked if they would support the appointment of a staff member representative to the Graduate Council. The suggestion was supported and a suggestion was made to have a staff member representative appointed from the Staff Senate.

**Discussion of the Graduate Council meeting time:**

Graduate Council was asked if there was interest in changing the Graduate Council meeting time to 2:00-4:00 p.m. The suggestion was not supported so the Graduate Council meeting time will remain 1:00-3:00

**Discussion of proposed changes to the Graduate Council Committees:**

A proposal to reorganize the Graduate Council Committees and to add a new committee was submitted to the Graduate Council for discussion. The new committee structure was approved by the Graduate Council. Graduate Council members will receive an e-mail requesting their preferences for committee assignment. The newly formed committees will be announced at the October 5th Graduate Council meeting.

 **Follow up on Application Deadlines:**

Application deadlines will be discussed with program directors. The graduate program directors will be asked if they wish to make any changes to their program application deadlines.

**Suggested Agenda Items for 2012-13:**

Graduate Council member were asked to suggest agenda items for the 2012-13 academic year, please e-mail Elizabeth Frazier.

One suggestion is to discuss the data reporting to be used for program review. How will programs be evaluated? The Graduate Council will want to have input into the decision making regarding the evaluation criteria.

Another suggestion is to discuss the possibility of collecting a tuition deposit from graduate students. Dr. Karen Lunnen said the DPT program charges a tuition deposit. She agreed to bring information to the Graduate Council about how the DPT tuition deposit was purposed and approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Submitted by – Elizabeth Frazier

Please note: All attachments are on file in the Graduate School with the Graduate Council meeting minutes.