Graduate Studies Committee
Recruitment, Admissions and Financial Aid Committee

Report to the Policy Council for 2007-2008
April 16, 2008

Members
Gerardo Lopez, Suzanne Eckes, Ted Frick, Susie Sloffer, Danielle De Sawal, Anne Stright, Gayle Buck, Keith Morran, Lara Lackey, Andrea Walton, Meredith Park Rogers, Dwight Schuster, Ginette Delandshere

Ex-Officio
Ghangis Carter, Leigh Featherstone, Mary McMullen, Bob Osgood

Meetings: Three completed; one scheduled for April 17.

Course Proposals

Approved:
A636 "School Finance in P-12 Education" – Needed number change
C620 "Proseminar in Higher Education"
C660 "Higher Education Organization" – Needed number change
C695 "Academic Problems in Higher Education"

Not Approved (To Date):
P633 "Researching Learning in Context" – returned to department (it was unsigned)

Other Submissions to Committee

Rename the MS ED Psych Degree
Committee passed it without revisions. Committee also passed the new "general learning science" track.

IST Certificate Program
The certificate can be awarded to people who already completed this program, but cannot be back-dated. There is a need to recognize students who complete the 15 hour program. Passed without revision.

Minor in Learning Science
Committee did not find it actionable given that one can minor in anything in which there is a major.

Composition of and Changes to Dissertation Committee
The recommendation of the committee was that this issue be addressed in the meeting of the department chairs and that procedures be implemented.

Reading Level II License – Level II Reading Specialist
Language Ed proposed a level II program to build on a reading program that is currently in existence. The difference between the current program and that being proposed is that the latter qualified students to be a specialist in the state of Indiana. This option is not currently available to those pursuing masters and specialist degrees at IU. The committee approved the proposal.

Higher Education Student Affairs Revised Curriculum
Approved by the committee pending a few technical changes.

PhD Major in ELPS Amendment (to include new courses)
Approved by the committee

Joint BS/MS program for STEM teachers
The committee recommended that the concept of this new program (still being discussed by COAS) be forwarded for discussion by Policy Council.

Other Issues

Beechler Award

Five Beechler awards were made.

The Beechler subcommittee made the following suggestions:

1. We should consider funding "work related to the dissertation," instead of pre-proposal research. Proposal writing and dissertation writing are so closely related that this may be a better approach.

2. We need to be clear about the budget next year. This award will not fund conference travel but could fund incentives for study participants, travel/lodging to research sites, editors, transcription, books, etc.)

3. There will be no access to the Beechler money until the student passes the proposal defense or has a viable proposal as determined by the chair (assuming we move from funding pre-proposal research to funding research related to the dissertation).

4. Based on the above recommendations, the Committee decided to discuss the following in the fall:

The committee agreed that the number of awards nominated should be weighted by department. For example, C&I, being a larger department, might be able to nominate more students than Language Education.

The committee also agreed that in the future this award should be geared for dissertation research, instead of pre-proposal research because there is not a lot of campus money available for dissertation research.

The committee agreed that to be eligible for the award, students must have written a viable proposal (not a prospectus) as determined by the department chair. Thus, the student would not have needed to defend the proposal to apply. The competition will occur in the fall.

Dissertation of the Year
McMullen, Park Rogers, and De Sawal served on the subcommittee.

Graduate Student Leave Policy
Committee addressed issues pertaining to needs of graduate students. The subcommittee will propose two side-by-side policies. One will be for all graduate students in the School of Education related to timelines (i.e. pausing a clock). The second would apply to the Student Academic Appointments (SAA) in the school. The subcommittee included Buck, Stright, and McMullen.

PhD – Journal Articles in lieu of Dissertation
Idea was brought to the committee by HESA, the program the committee suggested could pilot a program. However, this is a larger issue within the School and in the University.

GSC/RAFA
The committees met together this year.

Pending Items

1. W515 – IUPUI proposal (postponed until next meeting)