Graduate Council Meeting Minutes
Mendenhall Student Center 221
March 19, 2012
3:00-5:00 pm

Present:

1. Call meeting to order
   3:09 PM

2. Approval of the February 20, 2012 Graduate Council Minutes
   Approved with revisions

3. Approval of the February 15, 2012 Graduate Curriculum Minutes
   Action Items:
   - Revision of existing degree: Master of Science in Nursing
   - Proposal of New Course: NURS 7445
   - Revision of Existing Courses: NURS 6615, 6621, 6622, 6623
   - Title Revision of Existing Concentration: Adult Nurse Practitioner
     (to Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner)
   - Title Revision of Existing Post MSN Certificate Program: Adult
     Nurse Practitioner (to Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner)
   - Proposal of New Courses: GEOL 7600, 7601
   - Approved

4. For Discussion and Approval Proposed changes to admissions
   procedures
   a. Reduced transcript requirements
      - Purpose is to reduce barriers to entry for non-traditional
        applicants
      - This document is consistent with current undergraduate
        procedures (requires only a transcript showing proof of
        degree earned)
      - All applicants are processed through a National
        Clearinghouse Database showing all schools a student has
        attended for the previous 10 years (in the case a student did
        not disclose all institutions attended)
• Dr. Gemperline will raise the question of transcript requirements at the April 27th GA Graduate Council meeting
  o Currently there is a strict interpretation by the UNC-GA's Attorney's Office of regulation passed by the UNC-GA
• If no issues are raised by the UNC-GA, the document will be incorporated into the Graduate Program Director's handbook and placed on the Graduate School website
• Request by the Graduate Council the transcript requirement memo be written in a policy statement format
• Approved

b. Admit by exception policy revisions
• Implementation Change
  o Delegate routine admit by exception to admission staff to allow for more discussions with programs regarding their applicant pool and their number of admits by exception
• Exempt from the Admit by Exception rules: Professional track admits and non-degree students who completed 9 or more hours of graduate coursework with a 3.0
• Reports will be created to show the admit information for a full academic year and programs will be contacted when they reach 10% admit by exception
• Reports can also be created to see how many AE admits are active in their program in a term
• Students admitted by exception will no longer have a GG hold placed on their student account restricting financial aid.
  o Graduate School would instead have a report of AE admits who have 9 hours or less to use for end of term communication with programs
  o The Director of Financial Aid, Julie Poorman, has been contacted to see if this proposal meets her requirements
• Robin Armstrong estimated roughly 300 students are admitted by exception per year (about 3 students are terminated each term)
• Approved
c. GPA calculation revisions
   • Undergraduate GPA would only report the GPA of the student at the time of their bachelor’s graduation; it would no longer be cumulative
   • Post-Baccalaureate GPA (formerly, Graduate GPA) calculation to begin at 9 hours rather than 15 hours of course work past the first undergraduate degree
   • Approved excluding last bullet (The regular admit qualifying threshold would increase to 3.0 if graduating GPA is used rather than cumulative GPA), retaining the current GPA requirement of 2.7
     o Dr. Gemperline will provide data regarding how many students are between the GPA range of 2.7 and 3.0

5. For Discussion and Approval: Application deadline
   • Two Proposals:
     1- Keep the current application deadline for new degree and certificate applications and allow application submissions through the first day of class for readmit and non-degree applications
     2- Keep the current application deadline for new degree, certificate and non-degree applications and allow application submissions through the first day of class for readmit applications
   • Discussion:
     o No matter when the deadline date is set there will always be students that miss it
     o Question of how many more students would be admitted under Proposal 1 than under Proposal 2
     o Question raised if allowing application submissions through the first day of class for non-degree students would affect processing application submissions for other students
     o Comment there is support for Proposal 2 from an institutional perspective but support for Proposal 1 from a student friendliness perspective
     o Suggestion to review retention data before making adjustments for non-degree students
Emerging consensus around proposal 2 coupled with removing priority deadlines that are in the Catalog and updating information provided to students regarding actual deadlines

A separate process will be implemented for Faculty non-degree applications

6. For Discussion and Approval: Last day to drop a class
   - Current drop date is too late (allowing students to be reckless with courses)
     - Courses can be dropped 2 weeks prior to the beginning of final exams (86% of the term complete)
   - Proposed graduate drop date as a percentage of class meetings
     - 60% complete or 45 class days
   - Tabled until specific dates proposed within university calendar, according to 60% or other

7. For Discussion: Survey of first year graduate students
   - Ad hoc working group assisting with the development of the survey
   - Student feedback incorporated from pilot test
   - Consensus from Graduate Council that survey is too long and should be shortened
   - Dr. Gemperline announced there drawing to win $100 Amazon gift card as an incentive for completing the survey

8. For Discussion: Revised plans for Fall 2012 new graduate student orientation
   - Working group assisting with development
   - Will feature a Blackboard course (implemented in May)
     - Departments will be able to use modules from the online blackboard component
   - Concern the date of Orientation may conflict with the New Faculty Orientation
   - Provide all feedback to Dr. Belinda Patterson

9. Adjourn
   5:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Amy E. Tripp