

MEETING OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
October 5, 2006

Members and Administrative Officers Present:

Laurie Achenbach, Paul Bates, David Carlson (ex-officio), Mae Davenport (for Karl Williard), John Dunn (ex-officio), Susan Felleman, Beth Freeburg (for Marcia Anderson, first part of meeting), Chris Green, Ramesh Gupta, Dan Hechenberger, Andrew Hofling, Scott Ishman (for Steve Esling), Aslam Kassimali, Maryon King, Elizabeth Klaver, John Koropchak (ex-officio), Carey Krajewski, Jack Kremers, Scott McClurg, Shelly McGrath, John Mead (Office of VCR), Christian Moe (observer, Emeritus Faculty Organization), Laura Murphy, John Preece, Karen Renzaglia, Pru Rice (Office of VCR), Richard Rivers, Mary Rudasill, Sara Samson, Edward Shay, Robert Sims (observer, A/P Council), Nathan Stucky, Spyros Tragoudas, Susan Tulis (observer, Faculty Senate), Alison Watts, Walter Wendler (ex-officio), Bennett Whitaker, and David Wilson (Graduate School).

Absent: Michael Batinski, Donna Post.

Proxies: Spyros Tragoudas for Brad Colwell, Scott Ishman for Steven Esling, Beth Freeburg for Marcia Anderson (for first part of meeting), and Mae Davenport for Karl Williard.

Guests: Susan Edgren, Division of Continuing Education; Ratna Sinha, Graduate School.

Prof. Tragoudas called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. in the Kaskaskia/Missouri Rooms of the Student Center.

1. Consideration of the minutes of the September 7, 2006 Graduate Council meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2006 Graduate Council meeting. The motion passed.

2. Remarks—Chancellor Wendler

Chancellor Wendler remarked that Dr. Susan Edgren will speak about SIUC's off-campus and distance education programs at today's meeting. He felt that this area was extremely important to the University as a means of addressing existing enrollment challenges at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. While enrollment at the undergraduate level is a significant challenge, it pales in comparison in some ways to the graduate level because of the importance of graduate students in helping the University achieve its goal of becoming a stronger research institution. In this regard, the Chancellor felt the best way to affect positive graduate recruiting was at the collegiate/ unit level since many students come to study with particular people or resources rather than to study at a particular institution. Therefore, he encouraged individuals within the units to think about goals, growth ideas and initiatives to develop within their graduate programs addressing enrollment issues. This problem is particularly challenging at this time when funds for assistantships, fellowships, grants, and other sources are restricted for various reasons. Other issues/questions related to enrollment

addressed by the Chancellor included the impact of the current enrollment decline on the income fund and the importance of University contact with high school and community college advisors for recruitment purposes. He also felt that, over the years, the University had become more reliant on the enrollment management area to meet enrollment challenges, when, in fact, they should be met within the units which can better address those issues.

3. Remarks—Provost Dunn

Deans' Searches

COEHS: Tracy L. Cross, Professor and Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, Research and Assessment at Ball State University, has interviewed for the College of Education and Human Services dean's position.

COLA: The search committee has been formed and met yesterday.

COS: Provost Dunn expressed disappointment with the dean's search process because nominations from College faculty have been slow to materialize. Because that situation is unacceptable, the position has been re-advertised. The Provost strongly urged faculty within the College of Science (or other colleges) to submit nominations/recommendations of individuals who are qualified for position. He also mentioned that faculty generally are honored to be nominated for such a position and that accepting a nomination does not imply commitment to interview. Chancellor Wendler added that for the College of Science dean's search, as well as the COLA search, the University should be looking for individuals who are members of the various scholarly academies and who are intellectual leaders in their disciplines that might be interested in leading these colleges.

Curricular issues:

The MARCH degree has been approved; the Ph.D. in Agricultural Sciences is at IBHE; the Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering—the preliminary review is positive with additional clarification needed on a few items, and the Ph.D. in Computer Science is scheduled for the IBHE December meeting.

Items of Interest:

Carmen Suarez has been appointed as Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management.

Community Colleges: The University has announced a program that provides the third and fourth year of the Elementary Education major in Mt. Vernon at the Market Place. This is done in cooperation with Rend Lake College and other surrounding community colleges—over 80 individuals signed up and expressed interest. The University will also be porting courses and experiences in Early Childhood Education to Shawnee Community College.

Regarding enrollment management, the Provost's Office has been working with the Media and Communication Office to address questions about marketing and imaging for the University.

Good News Items:

Research conducted in the College of Business and Administration at SIUC will be the topic of a segment on the ABC News program "20/20" on Friday, Oct. 6, at 9:00 p.m. Television producers profiled Prof. Steven J. Karau, Management, for a segment about productivity in the workplace. His research revealed that people who work in groups tend to slack off. Karau, along with Prof. Michael D. Michalisin, Management, and graduate assistant, Abdel Elsaid, co-authored the paper entitled, "Motivation losses and gains in groups: Effects of group beliefs and task meaningfulness."

The Princeton Review will release good news soon about the College of Business and Administration in its latest edition of annual law and business school guidebooks, which also features ranking lists based on student surveys.

Lane Christiansen, an undergraduate student in MCMA, had her work selected as part of the NPPA Women's Conference 2006 "Living the Moment" Gallery Show in St. Louis.

The College of Engineering is the recipient of a \$1.2 million NSF grant focused at increasing retention and graduation rates.

Rickey N. McCurry, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement and SIU Foundation CEO, said the Foundation had \$20.5 million in total activity during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006. Total activity includes contributions, pledges and pledge payments.

At this point in the meeting, Prof. Jack Kremers, Architecture, was introduced as the first representative from CASA to the Graduate Council.

4. Announcements—Vice Chancellor Koropchak, Associate Vice Chancellor Rice, and Associate Deans Wilson and Mead

Vice Chancellor Koropchak

In response to the Department of Justice consent decree, the Graduate Council set up a blue ribbon panel (chaired by Prof. Kittleson) to look at issues surrounding fellowships, particularly in diversity. At the same time, the President's and Chancellor's Offices have set up other committees to look at diversity more generally. One of those committees is devoted to academics at the graduate level and the VCR is chair of that committee. In order to avoid duplication between the two committees, Vice Chancellor Koropchak has met with Prof. Kittleson to divide up responsibilities. Prof. Kittleson's committee will focus on the fellowship area and the VCR's committee will focus on admissions which will include assistantships.

Continuing with his remarks, the VCR noted that since graduate assistants voted to form a union, a system is being developed for initiating negotiations on a contract.

The VCR urged further exploration of the *Princeton Review's* logo on the University web site that rates the University as one of the best in the Midwest. It is interesting to read some of the discussion on that web site, in particular, student comments such as "*Southern at 150*, a comprehensive enhancement scheme that focuses on ten major areas of University life, has already brought in great instructors and marks a dedication to strong academics. In a handful of disciplines, including aviation, creative writing, engineering, forestry, and mass communication, these undergraduates say there is little room for improvement. Whatever the department, SIU's professors typically receive high marks..." The VCR felt these types of statements were an indication that the University is significantly enhancing the quality of the instruction and experience provided to students.

Good news items: The Rehabilitation Institute will receive the Commissioner's Award for Excellence in Education and Training by the Rehabilitation Services Administration of the Department of Education. In addition, Alison Joseph, Department of English, has won the 2006 prize "The Happy Hour" poetry contest, sponsored by the journal, *Ale House Press*.

Associate Vice Chancellor Rice

At the end of the first quarter of the fiscal year, awards processed through ORDA were down \$3 million. While this is not good news, it may just be a fluctuation and not necessarily a direct indicator of the total number of awards that will be received this year.

The first issue of a new publication entitled "Undergraduate Research at SIUC 2006" has been released which highlights research accomplishments of undergraduate students on campus. The publication was funded by the Provost and VCR offices and designed by Marilyn Davis in ORDA. Departments are encouraged to submit undergraduate student achievements to Ms. Davis for future publications.

Dean Wilson

The National Research Council (NRC) study of the research doctorate is in process. A list of 21 programs that will be participating in the study has been submitted to NRC and, in addition, most of the faculty lists with the required information have been returned and uploaded to NRC's web site. When NRC finalizes its questionnaires, information will be provided to departmental contacts. Also an informational letter to faculty in those departments will be sent. The faculty questionnaire is very important; it is a voluntary questionnaire, but it is in the best interest of programs to have a high percentage of faculty participation.

Dr. Carol Lynch, Senior Scholar in Residence at the Council of Graduate Schools, was on campus recently. Dr. Lynch is leading a national effort for the Council of Graduate Schools in promoting the idea of professional science

master's degrees. While on campus, she met with a group, led by Prof. Preece, that is looking into a proposal for a professional science master's in Alternate Fuels Production Management. This is an interesting initiative because it is an attempt to find ways for undergraduates who are in the sciences to go on to graduate school in the sciences. National statistics show that only about 20% of science undergraduates actually enter graduate school and, as a consequence, many promising students in science are lost to other areas.

Dean Mead

Related to Dr. Wilson's comments about the science master's degrees, at the state-wide level, the University is taking the lead in organizing Illinois universities to explore energy issues. The first meeting will be held in November. This initiative is already paying dividends inasmuch as it will provide contacts to assist the State in its FutureGen proposal since Illinois and Texas are in competition for this large innovative power project.

5. Faculty Senate—Associate Dean Tulis

The Faculty Senate is continuing discussion about the Judicial Review Board and the Incomplete grades policy. In addition, UEPC is reviewing an RME for a minor in forensic science. Last, there is a resolution coming forward at the next meeting regarding budget issues on campus and how tuition dollar monies are allocated.

6. Graduate Off-Campus Initiatives Presentation—Dr. Edgren

At this time, Prof. Tragoudas re-ordered the agenda so that the item under New Business, a presentation on graduate off-campus initiatives by Dr. Susan Edgren, Assistant Director, Division of Continuing Education, would be considered next by the Council. VCR Koropchak noted that at the last Graduate Council Executive Committee meeting, there was discussion about goals for increasing graduate enrollment and utilizing distance education opportunities. As a result of that discussion, Dr. Edgren was invited to address the Council.

Dr. Edgren distributed a handout of her Power Point presentation (see Appendix) and a packet of additional information related to distance education and off-campus programs. She then provided details of the topics noted in the Appendix— Continuing Education's commitment to provide excellent off-campus and distance education courses vis-à-vis the Southern at 150 plan; credit offerings; the mission of distance education at SIUC; distance education opportunities; the different types of distance education programs; procedures for establishing an off-campus program, and the continuing education and internal consulting activities form. Dr. Edgren emphasized that all distance education courses offered through the academic departments carry full SIUC residential credit. The SIUC*Connected* Website is the main source of information regarding distance education providing course listings, on-line listings, student resources, registering on-line, buying books on line, and faculty resources. Faculty are invited to access that website for information if interested in becoming a distance education faculty member. In addition to distance education courses, Continuing Education facilitates the delivery of off-campus programs for students who are

unable to come to campus. Dr. Edgren mentioned that these programs are also academic department courses. They are cost-recovery programs for which no State dollars are received.

Additional information:

- a) To ensure that an off-campus or distance education program or course is scheduled in a timely manner, faculty should submit the internal consulting form as soon as possible. As a general rule, the amount of time needed for establishing a new off-campus course, from start to finish, is approximately two months. For establishing a full master's program, approximately six months.
- b) Responding to a question about whether these programs generate extra income for the University, Dr. Edgren said that 28.6% of the money received for these programs goes into the general income fund. The remainder is retained locally to run the program and cover such items as faculty salaries and travel.
- c) There are individuals who teach off-campus programs as part of their regular load. While Dr. Edgren's office schedules the courses for these individuals, it does not pay them because the course is part of their regular load. In that case, students in those courses pay a regular off-campus tuition rate and 100% of that amount goes into the regular tuition fund.
- d) Faculty who wish to offer a totally on-line distance education course for resident students should contact Dr. Edgren's office directly. (The Provost added that he has concern about a course that is to be offered on-line for resident students without having any interaction with those students.)
- e) Regarding the list of 11 items noted in the Appendix for establishing a new off-campus program, the first two items (cost projection/budget and memorandum of agreement) are of primary concern for the faculty and department. Once those items are established, Dr. Edgren's office follows through on steps 3-11.
- f) The Provost noted that centralization of the scheduling of off-campus and distance education courses is important to satisfy the University's accrediting bodies.
- g) The 2007 distance learning program development grant preliminary proposal is due October 20, 2006. Grant application materials can be found on the SIUC*Connected* website under faculty resources.

7. Announcements—Prof. Colwell

Since Prof. Colwell was not in attendance at today's meeting, there were no announcements.

8. Nominations to Committees—Prof. Tragoudas

Prof. Tragoudas is working on selecting representatives to the Library Affairs Committee and to the Outstanding Scholar Committee.

9. GPSC Report—Sara Samson

Ms. Samson introduced a new GPSC representative to the Graduate Council—Mr. Bennett Whitaker, Speech Communication.

The current issue facing GPSC is a \$30,000 budget reduction that is a result of an audit of GPSC and USG. The audit found the student activity fee had not been equitably distributed between these two groups because allocation of those funds had been based on enrollment numbers and not enrolled credit hours. The policy has now been changed and GPSC will have to determine how to address that budget reduction.

10. Report of the New Programs Committee—Prof. Ishman for Prof. Esling

No report.

11. Report of the Research Committee—Prof. Achenbach

The Committee is in process of reviewing the Faculty Excellence Concept Team report. This document can be found on the Graduate Council web site. At its October meeting, the Committee will be reviewing the Research Misconduct Policy with AVCR Rice and, in addition, begin discussion on a new document, *A Current Perspective on Research at SIUC*, drafted by Drs. Koropchak and Rice.

12. Report of the Program Review Committee—Prof. Anderson

Prof. Anderson reported that all of the internal program reviews were underway and schedules were working well. The Provost complimented the Committee by saying he was pleased with the progress of the review processes this year.

13. Report of the Educational Policies Committee—Prof. King

The Educational Policies Committee is continuing to work towards a policy for graduate-level plagiarism. Last week, the Committee with Drs. Rice and Wilson to discuss conduct of responsible research, academic dishonesty, and programs being conducted on campus regarding plagiarism. In addition, Jerry Nelms who is writing a book on plagiarism met with the Committee to discuss the scope of this issue. Moreover, Prof. King has met with Jim Allen of the Faculty Senate regarding TurnItIn.com. The Committee hopes to have a draft of a plagiarism policy to bring to the Council by the end of the semester.

At the conclusion of the Educational Policies Committee's report, the Provost announced another good news item— Dr. Bary Malik received the 2007 John Wheatley Award from the Executive Board of the American Physical Society. The citation on the certificate will read: "For his extensive contributions to developing physics and inspiring physicists in emerging nations through insightful personal collaboration, continuing education of graduate students, creation of research centers and groups in developing countries, organization of international meetings and attracting resources in the USA and internationally to sustain all these activities for over thirty years."

14. Old Business

Since there was no further business to bring before the Council, the meeting was declared adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra L. Ballestro
Recording Secretary

[Appendix 1](#)