Graduate Council Minutes
January 19, 2006

Graduate Council met in Bond Hall room 295 on this date. Members in attendance were Dr. Donald Steven, Dr. David Allen, Dr. Jennifer Altiere, Dr. Mark Bebensee, Dr. Kathy Brown, Dr. John Carter, Dr. Will Johnson, Dr. Kathryn Richardson-Jones, Dr. Kim Kirby, Dr. Mike Politano, Dr. Paul Rosenblum, and Dr. Bob Steed. Ex-officio members Ms. Marcia Bonica, Dr. Harry Davakos, Dr. Ray Jones and Ms. Sylvia Nesmith. Dr. Tony Johnson and Ms. Marna Stilley were in attendance.

The minutes of the September 29, 2005 meeting were approved as distributed.

Dr. Jones presented the agenda item concerning the proposal to add a non-voting Student Government representative to the Graduate Council. In addition to the materials presented in the handout, the Student Government Association would also be required to make an annual presentation to the Graduate Council as to the activities of the organization. Dr. Steven inquired as to whether or not the SGA was a new idea or an organization that had been formed at an earlier time. Dr. Jones responded that there was an SGA some years ago but had only met for a semester. This earlier organization had not been involved with the Graduate Council. Dr. Davakos noted that in order to start the process of allowing another member, the charter of the council would have to be revised and taken to the Academic Board for final approval. Dr. Steven suggested the SGA representative could sit on the council as the charter was revised and approved. Dr. Rosenblum moved for this action as suggested; seconded by Dr. Allen. This motion passed without objection: "The Graduate Council charter will be revised to include one SGA representative as a non-voting ex-officio member. The SGA representative will present an annual SGA update to the Graduate Council." The SGA representative will join the Graduate Council during the charter revision process.

Dr. Jones presented the next agenda item concerning the requirement for transcripts of all those seeking admission into CGPS programs. Dr. Politano asked if this motion were to pass, how CGPS could know if all transcripts have been turned in. Dr. Jones responded that there is no sure way of knowing, however, if it were discovered that a student knowingly mislead CGPS with regards to transcripts, that student’s admission would come under review. Dr. Allen noted that it would be redundant to require community college transcripts as well as undergraduate transcripts where the community college classes would already appear. Ms. Bonica replied that the undergraduate institution often do not put the grade for the community college course on the transcript. However, it can be assumed, as stated by Dr. Allen that the grade would be at least a “C” if credit were awarded. Dr. Richardson-Jones inquired as to how non-degree seeking student would be affected. Dr. Jones replied that such students would also be subject to this rule change because non-degree students are pending degree status. It was decided that non-degree students would be required to provide an unofficial transcript of the highest degree earned but if applying to become a degree student, all official transcripts would be required. Students seeking a professional certification would also need to provide such transcripts. The new language for the catalog will read as follows: The CGPS
Dr. Altiere presented the third agenda item concerning the revision of the Master of Education in Reading program. The new program will be Master of Education in Literacy Education. The number of core classes in this program will be reduced from 45 hours to 36 hours. Courses in Education Psychology as well as Data Collection will be required. Along with a written comprehensive exam, a practicum has also been added. Dr. Tony Johnson discussed briefly the shortage of reading teachers and reading consultants in the low-country and how this program can help fill that need. Ms. Nesmith inquired as the number of students in the existing program. Dr. Altiere responded that with the number at 55. The new program will begin in Fall 2006, with the current program would be terminated once those who have already taken a significant number of classes have completed their requirements. Existing students will have the option to finish the existing program or change to the new program. She also noted that the students have six years to complete said requirements. This program is for those who already have a valid teaching certificate. This motion passed to approve the new Masters of Education in Literacy without objection.

The next agenda item concerning the addition of a new required content course for the M.A.T. in Physical Education was presented by Dr. John Carter. The redundancy of HESS 519 and HESS 536 warrants the creation of a new course titled Content and Methods of Teaching Physical Education. This will allow the content and methodology to become more specific. Dr. Rosenblum asked about the frequency of the course. Dr. Carter responded that the course would be offered every fall semester. Dr. Carter noted that there are no FTE or other programmatic costs as a result of this revision. The motion passed without objection. The new course designation will be HESS (?)527.

Dr. Jones informed the council that the MBA program will propose some curriculum changes at the next Graduate Council meeting, and issued a handout with the proposed changes for preliminary review.

Dr. Will Johnson raised some issues that he would like to discuss at a later time. These issues being: accessibility of Book Store/Cadet Store for graduate students, scholarships for graduate students, asking if applying students have been convicted of a felony and having classes prior to 4pm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Ray Jones