Graduate Council Minutes
March 16, 2006

Graduate Council met in Bond Hall room 295 on this date. Dr. Jones chaired this meeting. Members in attendance were Dr. Jennifer Altieri, Dr. Mark Bebensee, Dr. Kathy Brown, Dr. John Carter, Dr. Margaret Francel, Dr. Will Johnson, Dr. Kathy Richardson-Jones, Dr. Paul Rosenblum, Dr. Robert Steed. Ex-officio members Dr. Harry Davakos, Dr. Ray Jones, Dr. Keith Knapp and Ms. Sylvia Nesmith.

The minutes of the February 16, 2006 were corrected. Dr. Francel indicated that the phrase in the third paragraph that reads: “Dr. Francel noted that she was under the impression that methods course is required and asked....” is incorrect. This should read: “Dr. Francel noted that she as under the impression that a methods course is required under current accreditation standards and asked....”. This motion to append the minutes as corrected passed without objection.

Dr. Knapp and Dr. Richardson-Jones presented the first agenda item regarding the revised proposal on HIST 692 “Teaching of History and Social Sciences”. This revision splits one general course into three content-specific classes. This will help students perform better on their PRAXIS as well as in teaching these courses at a junior high and high school level. This also allows for more content to be relayed to the students. Dr. Richardson-Jones added that a main goal of the change is to tie the pedagogy in with the content. This will aide in strengthening the students knowledge in some subject areas where they might be weak. Also, the entire Department of History is utilized so that there is no undue burden on any one member of the faculty. Dr. Francel asked if this change meets the standards of the accrediting agency with regards to methodology. Dr. Richardson-Jones replied yes and added that the students also are exposed to more faculty members with a greater depth of knowledge. Dr. Steed asked as to the nature of the students most likely to take these courses. The reply was that mostly Education students but there will also be MAT students and teachers seeking re-certification. Dr Bebensee moved to accept the changes, the motion was seconded and passed without objection.

Dr. Johnson presented the next agenda item regarding the renaming of PSYC 558. This course is being updated to reflect current theories and practices. Ms. Nesmith asked when Dr. Johnson would like the change to take effect. He indicated that the change could take effect in the fall. Dr. Bebensee asked why the number was not being changed. He added that someone taking PSCY 558 ten years ago and someone taking this revised course would have to different classes under the same number. Ms. Nesmith noted that it is the same process as changing HIST 692 (see above). The course would be closed after it has been taught for the last time under the old name. Then, it will be reopened under the new name. Dr. Jones asked what the implications would be for students. Dr Johnson replied that there wouldn’t be any. Dr. Jones then asked what the implications would be for the registrar’s office and Ms. Nesmith replied that the only change would be the name. Dr. Sheila Foster, asked what the implications would be if the Psychology Department wanted to offer a course in Family Systems in the future. Dr. Francel then
moved to table this item until the next meeting of the Graduate Council where the issues raised can be addressed. Dr. Davakos seconded this motion. The motion passed and is tabled until the April meeting of the Graduate Council.

Dr. Jones then presented the results of the CGPS student survey to the council. The CGPS office mailed surveys to every other CGPS student and received 56% of those surveys back. The survey covers: interest in PhD in Education, preferred class location and start times, desired concentrations within existing programs, average semester load, the extension library and computer lab hours and the parking situation. Dr. Sheila Foster was concerned about the question of desired concentrations. She felt that other programs such as psychology and education should have been included in the question. Dr. Jones replied that the options provided were derived from student suggestions over the past year. These included organizational psychology and family psychology in the psychology field and human resources which can be in the humanities. In regards to Daniel Library and computer lab hours, Dr. Jones stated that some changes have been discussed by Dr. LeClerq. In regards to parking, Dr. Carter asked Dr. Jones to pose a question to the Vice-Presidents regarding the parking lot adjacent to the Alumni House and the reasons for its current use or lack thereof. Dr. Jones agreed to take up this matter and added that the Alumni Center and Public Safety have changed current practices to better ease the parking burden for CGPS day parking. Dr. Francel added that the students have said that one reason for selecting The Citadel (over College of Charleston) is the fact that tuition is lower as well as the fact that the parking situation is better. Dr. Bebensee then asked if it was able to separate these results by program. Dr. Jones replied that it isn’t possible for this survey, but collecting that demographic information is possible in the next survey.

Dr. Jones informed the council that he will be seeking to have the CGPS graduation and the Corps of Cadets graduation aligned. This will mean that CGPS students will not have to return for the day after New Years to begin classes. The current practice is not favorable to CGPS students, faculty or scheduling.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Ray Jones