

Minutes of the Graduate Board

Wednesday, February 16, 2005

3B Conwell Hall, Main Campus 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Robert Aiken, Barrie Ashby, Ann E. Barr, Beth Bolton, Daniel Canney, Rajan Chandran, Kevin J. Delaney, Dimitrios Diamantaras, Thomas Eveslage, Alice Hausman, Kathryn Hirsh-Pasek, Joyce A. Joyce, Jagannathan Krishnan, Judith Litvin, G. Augusto Lorenzino, A. Marjatta Lyyra, Elizabeth Moran, Michael Sachs, Dennis Silage, Jagbir Singh, Robert Winokur

Ex-Officio Member:

Aquiles Iglesias, Dean, Graduate School Zebulon Kendrick, Associate Dean, Graduate School

Graduate School Staff:

Cheryl Jackson, Assistant to the Dean Kathryn Petrich-LaFevre, Senior Editor

Approval of the Minutes:

Michael Sachs motioned to approve the minutes of November 17, 2004. Ann Barr seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes was unanimously passed.

Business:

Dean Iglesias opened by noting that the January 19 meeting was cancelled at approximately 1:30 p.m. that day due to inclement weather. He extended his apologies to any members who had ventured out to the meeting but explained that all members were contacted both by email and telephone in an attempt to notify everyone.

Directing attention to the agenda, the Dean pointed out that the information regarding the Graduate Recruitment Committee was included in the day's handouts. This list was requested at the November meeting. He noted that the committee is active and that a second recruitment committee is being formed, that one for the professional schools.

Associate Dean Kendrick reported on Graduate Board committee activities. He stated that the *Fellowship* applications for Round 1 were in the process of being distributed to the subcommittee members for review. As for *Program Review*, three items were on the agenda:

- a. An electronic vote was conducted with regard to the proposal for the revised M.B.A. program at the Fox School of Business and Management. This was necessary in order to have the proposal reach the Board of Trustees in time for consideration at its March meeting. The following votes were reported:
 - Whether to conduct an electronic vote: 19 for, 1 against, 2 abstentions
 - Whether to approve the proposal: 21 for, 0 against, 2 abstentions

- b. Meetings of the Program Review Committee were held on January 26 and February 9 to review a proposal for a revised master's degree in Epidemiology. It was noted that the proposal was originally accepted in Spring 2001 but was held in abeyance until a permanent dean was appointed. Updates have been made in the interim. Alice Hausman explained that the degree addresses a real need in the city as the University of Pennsylvania is presently the only institution to offer a clinical epidemiology program. The proposed program at Temple, which is research-based, already has an infrastructure in place: faculty have been hired, and the courses are planned. In the ensuing discussion, it was noted that on page 13, STAT 576: Introduction to Epidemiology should be added and STAT 827: Advanced Analysis of Variance should be eliminated. A vote was then conducted. The results were 19 for, 0 against, with 1 abstention, provided the corrections are made as noted above.
- c. The Religion Department's proposal for a new Ph.D. emphasis in Race, Religion, and Ethnicity was brought to the Graduate Board for review. It was noted that this is not a new program, but a refocusing of the current program. New courses have been approved, and a faculty search is on for an expert who integrates all three areas. Dean Iglesias noted that he will explore the level of approval that is needed for the proposal's restructuring.

An update on the Middle States Periodic Review Report was provided by Robert Aiken. He reported that the five-year interim report is close to its final draft. It is being made available online for three weeks beginning February 21 so members of the Temple community can review it and offer comments. The comments will then be assimilated and used to revise the report. The target is to get the report on the Provost's desk by April 1 and to the Board of Trustees in time for its May meeting. The report is due to Middle States by June 1. Bob Aiken noted that the most difficult section of the report to address was assessment because it entails accountability and must be approved by senior-level administrators. The two key elements are institutional effectiveness and student learning outcomes. The latter is problematic because Temple does not have statistics on this, but it is anticipated that the general education curriculum will generate such data. It was suggested that the accreditation process has built-in assessments for certain programs, but this is not across the board. The Dean pointed out that the Middle States Periodic Review Report presents a well-rounded perspective on Temple, not just isolated departments.

Graduate Faculty Criteria were addressed. The Dean remarked that these criteria have been received from all but one school. They are in different formats, but the Graduate School will work to make each of the documents consistent. Associate Dean Kendrick pointed out that a review of the criteria has resulted in the identification of four problematic areas:

- a. Five-year review for four-year appointment: Two schools are allowing overlap of credentials. It was stated that some disciplines have much longer lead times on publications and, thus, the longer time frame is warranted.
- b. Flexibility: For cases wherein only one individual has graduate faculty status but many graduate students, special assignments will need to be approved and graduate faculty from other departments will need to serve on dissertation committees. It was also suggested that enrollment in such programs be limited.
- c. Teaching career total: How many graduate courses should a graduate faculty member teach in what period of time to maintain graduate faculty status? This is problematic in cases such as Dean Iglesias'. He no longer teaches, but he does lecture. Kathy Hirsh-Pasek suggested that the concern lies in determining what constitutes "distinguished" faculty, citing Einstein as an example of someone who might not have achieved graduate faculty status. Bob Aiken noted that one set of guidelines cannot be assumed to cover all cases. Marjatta Lyyra

remarked that student placeability after graduation should determine the quality of graduate teaching.

d. Transitioning faculty: Administrators who have been out of the classroom for an extended period of time may choose to return. It was recommended that they be allowed two years to prove themselves under the guidance of a mentor. It was further recommended that their currency in the field of study is key.

During the ensuing discussion, it was noted that the graduate faculty criteria will eliminate abuses of junior faculty who are hired and then expected to sit on dissertation committees. This robs them of the time they need to establish their own publishing career. Questions also arose about the nomination process and how it is determined who will be recommended for graduate faculty status. While it was noted that the dean or his/her designee signs off, it was suggested that the graduate director or chair should have input. Bob Aiken suggested that the Graduate Board needs to make clear how the proposed criteria constitute an improvement over the existing process. It was recommended that the graduate faculty be given sufficient notice about the Spring meeting and that a document be presented that clearly states why the Graduate Board supports the implementation of the graduate faculty criteria. Joyce Joyce suggested that a notice could be written for publication in the Faculty Herald for this purpose.

Attention was briefly turned to the "Planning for the Future" document. The Dean noted that it was prepared to foster discussion about the future of graduate education at Temple. It not only indicates where graduate education stands presently but where it needs to go.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned @ 4:25 p.m.

The next Graduate Board meeting will be held on Main Campus, 3B Conwell Hall, on Thursday, March 17, 2005, @ 2:30 p.m.