

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE May 7, 2012 MEETING OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

- PLACE:** Couper Administrative Building - Room148
- PRESIDING:** Nancy E. Stamp, Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School
- MEMBERS:** Laura Collins, Carmen Ferradas, Brandon Gibb, Les Lander, Dina Maramba, Pamela Mischen, Mary Muscari, Chuck Nelson, Thomas O'Brien, Omowunmi Sadik, Steven Tammariello
- EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:** Elizabeth Brown, Stephen Gilje, Florence Margai
- GUEST:** Donald Nieman, Dean Harpur College Arts & Sciences
- EXCUSED:** Nicholas Kaldis, Paul Parker
- ABSENT:** George Catalano, Junghyun Cho, Wayne Jones, Susan Lu, Tongshu Ma, Debi Mishra, Patrick Regan, Benita Roth, Libby Tucker, Mohammed Younis

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Provost and Dean Nancy Stamp called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

II. MINUTES:

The minutes of the April 16, 2012 Graduate Council Meeting were approved as written.

III. COMMITTEES

Academic Standards Committee

This committee has not met.

Advisory Committee on Scholarship and Research

The committee will meet on May 10th to continue their review of Organized Research Centers.

Budget Advisory Committee

This committee met on April 23rd and awarded spring travel awards.

Clark Fellowship Committee

This committee has not met.

Curriculum Committee

This committee met on April 30th and reviewed the proposal for a new concentration in the MASS program. Associate Dean Jennifer Jensen attended the meeting to discuss the proposal and to answer questions. The proposal is still being revised and will be submitted to Graduate Council subsequently.

Excellence Awards/Grievance Committee

Dean Stamp asked graduate council about renaming this committee. She suggested renaming it to "Student Affairs." Members indicated that made better sense. For the time being, it will be called "Student Affairs Committee."

Strategic Planning Committee

This committee met on April 19th to continue the discussion of graduate education.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Dean Nieman attended Graduate Council to discuss the Social Science Analysis track in MASS and the Professional Master's Degrees, in general. Summary of his points: The track in MASS would be a positive step towards meeting the needs of our students and increasing enrollment. The track within the MASS Program would focus on an interdisciplinary approach and quantitative analysis. Creating a highly quantitative analytical track that would tie into the expertise of faculty of various disciplines would be attractive to students. Students would gain quantitative analytical tools that would help them be successful in consulting firms, government and in corporate America. We need to explore offering additional high quality programs that offer more professionally oriented degrees, where graduates have been successful in moving into professional employment. He suggested offering more combined degree (bachelor-master) programs, such as this track in MASS, as a way to recruit students. The combined programs are an asset to Harpur College and the University because it allows students pursuing a liberal arts undergraduate education to move into a field that is professionally oriented. Liberal arts education is a very good preparation for doing a wide variety of things. It allows students to form habits of mind, and breadth of knowledge that will serve them well for a very long time.

Associate Dean Margai added that by expanding our enrollment in master degree programs, it would help our local economy. Studies have shown that students earning a Master degree are more likely to stay in the local community or the state within which they earned their degree.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 after motion by Professor Nelson and seconded by Professor Gibb.

Minutes recorded by Cheryl McGowan,
Secretary to the Vice Provost and Dean
of the Graduate School