

**Minutes
University Graduate Council
March 26, 2008**

Present: William McDaniel (Chair), Business Presiding; Deborah Floyd, Education; Elwood Hamlin II, CAUPA; Ali Zilouchian, Engineering; Susan Chase, Nursing; Khaled Sobhan, Engineering; Larry Liebovitch, Science; Doug Broadfield, Arts & Letters

Excused Absence: Ronald Nyhan, CAUPA; Charles Roberts, Science; John Morris, Education; Xupei Huang, Biomedical Science; Ruth McCaffrey, Nursing; Emily Asbury, Graduate Student Association; Ben Lowe, Arts & Letters; Massimo Caputi, Biomedical Science; John Bernardin, Business

Others Present: Gail Burnaford, Education; Barry Rosson, Graduate College; Susan Fulks, Graduate College

The meeting was called to order by Dr. McDaniel at 1:30 p.m.

I. The minutes from the February 27, 2008 meeting were approved unanimously.

II. Academic Regalia

McDaniel moves to move Academic Regalia discussion to the top of the agenda. The discussion focused on doctoral regalia, and associated costs.

Chase moved that Council recommends back to the UFS that students be given the option to rent or purchase a simpler version of the doctoral regalia for commencement, effective this semester if possible. Floyd seconded this motion. The Council was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Chase moved to recommend to the UFS that a task force or committee be formed to consider the design for FAU's official doctoral regalia. This motion was seconded by Zilouchian. Liebovitch asks if Chase would like to provide any further guidelines for the task force.

Council agrees that it probably makes sense to coordinate this effort through the President's Office because University branding is involved in this issue.

Chase withdraws her earlier motion in favor of a new motion by Floyd. The withdrawal was seconded by Broadfield. The council approved Chase's motion to withdraw.

Floyd moves that the UGC recommends to the UFS that FAU afford students options to rent or buy doctoral academic regalia. The options would be the traditional FAU design and/or plain black.

Liebovitch moved to amend Floyd's motion that students be allowed to wear regalia purchased from any vendor designated by the vendor as doctoral regalia, so long as it is black or university colors. Hamlin seconded this motion. Motion was approved by the council (7,1).

III. Graduate Version of the SPOT (Student Perception of Teaching)

McDaniel tabled this item and asked for a cite of where the council can read what SACS said about SPOT. The sense of the council was that this may be an important issue for graduate programs, but members need to view the language.

IV. Administrative Structure for Oversight of GTAs above the Individual Academic Units

Zilouchian recommended that a representative from the GSA (Graduate Student Association) be present to discuss this issue. Council members agreed to collect samples of oversight minimums for GTAs. Each college will find out what rules are currently in place at FAU. Floyd requested that Dean Rosson ask deans of colleges what current oversight of GTA's exists at college level.

V. Recommendations Concerning a Central Data Bank for Transcripts and Vitae of Part-time Faculty who Instruct Graduate Courses

Tabled until Graduate Governance Document is approved.

VI. Model Contract that Outlines Graduate Assistant Responsibilities to be Signed by both the GA and the Supervisor

McDaniel recommended council members bring sample GTA documents (contracts, expectations, work duties) from their colleges. Council requests representatives from Student Employment and/or University Attorney's Office at the next meeting.

- VII. Establish the Title “Graduate Teaching Associate” for those who are Teacher and Instructor of Record to distinguish from Graduate Teaching Assistant from those who simply assist in teaching**

Sobhan motioned to accept this title. It was seconded by Broadfield and approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.