
Members absent: Arado, Ayres, Jaffee, James, Sims, Yang

Others present: Hughes (Secretary), Klaper (Ombudsperson), Smith (Catalog Editor/Curriculum Coordinator)

Bond called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Levin moved approval of the November 2, 2015, minutes; Gowen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

Graduate Colloquium Committee: Bond reported on the November 13, 2015, meeting. There were 52 proposals for Spring 2016. Although a few proposals required some revisions, all were approved for funding. Bond thanked Beatrix Hoffman for volunteering to chair the Colloquium Executive Committee again this year.

Graduate Council Curriculum Committee: Howell reviewed the minutes of the November 9, 2015, meeting for approval. He stated that there were numerous revisions and new courses approved by the committee, but the most substantial change was in the College of Health and Human Sciences. He asked Bostwick to expand on the reorganization in the School of Nursing and Health Studies. Bostwick informed members that Nursing was separating from Health Studies to become an independent entity. The curriculum changes were structural in nature to separate health studies programs from the new School of Nursing. She indicated that a new school for health studies programs would also be proposed.

Howell informed members that the committee also approved two new certificates of graduate study: International Business, as well as Simulation, Modeling and Data Analysis.

Howell also referred to a prior discussion about plagiarism software. Howell stated that the topic would continue to be an item of discussion for the Graduate Council. Hathaway moved approval of the minutes; Van Wienen seconded the motion, which carried...
unanimously. (Curriculum Committee minutes and catalog changes are available at: http://www.niu.edu/u_council/committees/minutes/gccc/index.shtml.)

**Graduate Council Standards Committee:** Bond reported on the November 16, 2015, meeting. He reviewed proposed changes to the catalog regarding examination requirements for admission. Specifically, the changes reflect programs that no longer require the GRE for admission. In addition, the Master of Accounting Science program was added to the list of programs requiring the GMAT. For clarity, both sections were reformatted using bullet points. Howell moved approval of the revisions; Hoffman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. (See attached document.)

**New Business**

**Graduate Council Assistant Chair:** Bond informed members that, sadly, Amy Levin would be retiring at the end of the calendar year. He thanked Levin for her service on the Graduate Council and its various standing committees, as well as for serving as assistant chair and editor of the minutes. Members expressed their well wishes to Levin. Bond asked if there were any volunteers to serve as the assistant chair. Hoffman indicated that she would volunteer in honor of Levin. Stoddard moved approval of the nomination; Wilkins seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Graduate Assistantship Stipends for AY 17:** Bond reviewed a draft memo reflecting no change in the minimum graduate assistantship stipend amounts for fiscal year 2016-2017. He reminded members that the memo reflects *minimum* stipends; Graduate Council sets no maximum stipends. Wilkins moved approval of the memo; Mantzke seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. (See attached memo.)

**Graduate Council Membership:** Bond informed members that Courtney Gallaher from the Department of Geography and the Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality will be replacing Levin on the Graduate Council beginning next semester. In addition, Beth Gaillard and Sinclair Bell, both of whom have been on sabbatical, will be returning in the spring semester. Bond thanked Tom Sims and Barbara Jaffee for serving as their replacements in the fall semester. Bond bid Amy Levin adieu.

Meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m.
Examinations Required for Admission

Graduate Record Examinations (GRE)

In order to be considered for admission to the Graduate School, all applicants, other than those applying to programs listed below, in the College of Business, the transitional D.P.T., the M.F.A. or the M.A. with a specialization in studio art in the School of Art, the M.M. degree or Performer’s Certificate programs in the School of Music, the M.F.A. with a specialization in acting or in design and technology in the School of Theatre and Dance, the M.S. Ed. in Kinesiology and Physical Education, or the M.S. in nursing in the School of Nursing and Health Studies, must have provided official scores on all sections of the General Test of the Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) to the Graduate School. For the Ph.D. in Health Sciences, GRE scores are waived for applicants who have earned a graduate degree with a GPA of 3.50 or higher from an accredited institution.

Applicants to the following programs are exempt from the GRE:

- Master of Business Administration (see Graduate Management Admission Test below);
- Management of Information Systems (see Graduate Management Admission Test below);
- Master of Accounting Science (see Graduate Management Admission Test below);
- Master of Taxation (see Graduate Management Admission Test below);
- transitional-Doctoral of Physical Therapy (exempt);
- Master of Fine Arts in School of Art and Design (exempt);
- Master of Arts, Specialization in Studio Art (exempt);
- Master of Science in Art and Design Education (exempt);
- Master of Fine Arts in School of Theatre and Dance (exempt);
- Master of Music (exempt);
- Performer’s Certificate (exempt);
- Master of Science in Kinesiology and Physical Education (exempt);
- Master of Science in Nursing (exempt);
- Master of Public Administration (exempt);
- Ph.D in Health Science (applicants who have earned a graduate degree with a 3.50 or higher GPA from an accredited institution are exempt).
Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT)

Applicants for graduate study in the College of Business must submit official scores on the GMAT to the Graduate School. With the approval of the applicant's prospective major department, the requirement to submit official scores on the GMAT may be waived if:

- an applicant has already earned a graduate degree from an accredited institution.
- an applicant to the Executive M.B.A. has ten or more years of professional managerial experience;
- an applicant to the M.S.T. program presents satisfactory scores on the LSAT or provides evidence of passing all parts of the C.P.A. examination;
- an applicant to the M.A.S program has earned a baccalaureate degree from an accredited US college or university;
- an applicant to the M.S. in Management Information Systems may submit GRE scores in lieu of GMAT scores.

With the approval of the applicant's prospective major department, the requirement to submit official scores on the GMAT may be waived for the Executive M.B.A. format for an applicant who has ten or more years of professional managerial experience. With the approval of the Department of Accountancy, the GMAT score requirement may be waived for applicants to the M.S.T. program who present satisfactory scores on the LSAT or who provide evidence of passing all parts of the C.P.A. examination.

Applicants to programs in the College of Business are not required to take the General Test of the GRE. In special cases, however, if an applicant who has already taken the Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) is applying for admission to a program that requires the GMAT, the department may agree to accept the scores on the GRE. The M.S. in sport management will accept the GMAT or the GRE scores.

**Justification:** This revision adds to the list of programs not requiring the GRE, including certain specializations in Art; it also adds to the GMAT section the MAS program. Additionally, because the list of programs not requiring one of the tests has grown, maintaining the list in paragraph style required unnecessary repetition and/or sentences worthy of James Joyce.
December 7, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: Offices That Appoint Graduate Assistants

FROM: Bradley G. Bond, Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Vice President for Graduate Studies

RE: Graduate Assistantship (GA) Stipends for AY 17 (2016-17)

The Graduate Council has approved a resolution mandating that the minimum stipend amounts be increased by either the federal Consumer Price Index or the amount of increase granted faculty salaries, whichever is higher. Because the CPI for the past year is flat, no change in the minimum stipend amount is indicated. Departments may set stipends at any rate above the established minimum.

The following minimum stipend amounts will be effective for assistantship (teaching, research, and staff) appointments beginning between August 16, 2016 and August 15, 2017.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP STIPENDS
Fall 2016 through Summer 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Full-time</th>
<th>3/4-time</th>
<th>1/2-time</th>
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<td>Official University Minimum:</td>
<td>$437 semi-monthly</td>
<td>$328 semi-monthly</td>
<td>$219 semi-monthly</td>
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Also, please be reminded that applicable Board and University policies preclude a graduate assistant from working more than 20 hours per week.

cc: Vice Presidents
Council of Deans
Associate Deans
Graduate Council
Grants Fiscal
Office of Sponsored Projects
Graduate Assistantship Employment, HRS