The Graduate Council met on Thursday, March 18, 2004 at 2:30 PM in Devlin Hall in the second floor conference room.

Members present:  S. Kovar (Dean), P. Kahol (Associate Dean), C. Brooks, J. Bryant, H. Cheraghi, I. Gibson, D. McDonald, L. Mitchell, R. Scudder, J. Wolff, D. Wright.

I. Approve Minutes from March 4, 2004 Meeting
   - Minutes were approved as distributed.

II. Graduate Faculty Nomination-Steven Peters, School of Performing Arts
   - Dr. Peters was approved for full membership by the Graduate Council.

III. Old Business
   - Concurrent/Accelerated Bachelors/Masters Programs- The Graduate Council members brought forward some issues regarding this proposal. If the student does not meet requirements for the concurrent program would they still be granted Graduate credit for the courses they took while an undergraduate? The six year limitation rule for completing course work could also be an issue. The Graduate Council discussed having the student start later in their undergraduate program to assure the completion of both degrees (enter after 30 hours of coursework completed). The GPA was also reviewed as the Concurrent programs ask for a 3.25 and, for example, Nursing asks for a 3.0 GPA for admission into their Concurrent program. The Nursing program also has very intense advising for students enrolled in this program. The Supervisory Committee was also discussed. The Nursing program does not have a Supervisory Committee established however there is intense advising.
   - The Graduate Council also discussed having a two semester Senior Rule instead of the Concurrent program. The exceptions or issues that would come up would go through the Undergraduate Office because the student would not yet be admitted into the Graduate School. The GPAs are not the same for Undergraduate as they are in Graduate regulations regarding probation. Once the student was admitted to the Graduate School the advisor and the Graduate School would make decisions on exceptions and issues the student has. While on senior rule the student would take 500, 600, and 700 level courses. The student would have to have an approved exception to take an 800 level course.
   - The Graduate Council asked if the student could transfer credits from one program to another while in the accelerated program. A student may transfer credits between programs (the example of Mechanical Engineering and Aerospace Engineering was used) currently but if the Concurrent programs guidelines were stricter could this happen?
   - Dean Kovar would ask Denise about the issuance of I-20s if an International student was interested in this program. The admission to Graduate School would be tentative until the Bachelors was complete yet the student would be taking Graduate level course work. The student would have a tentative admission though and the I-20 now, could not be issued with that admission standing.
   - The Concurrent Program was originally proposed as a recruitment tool. This would be attractive but it might be a challenge to work out the tiny details. Dean Kovar agreed to work on this proposal more and bring it back to the Graduate Council after adding a general statement regarding an acceptable GPA of 3.0.
Dean Kovar also asked Dr. Cheraghi to look into other programs that have this and how accrediting agencies view them.

- **Roles and Responsibilities, and Title of Graduate Coordinators** - The title of the Graduate Coordinator will be left as it is. When this issue was brought up at the Coordinators Meeting the attendees still liked the title. The Coordinators also requested stronger statements about rewards available for serving as a Graduate Coordinator and these statements were included. Dean Kovar also noted several minor wording changes. As a next step, this document will be presented to Academic Affairs Council. Then the document would be separated into two sections that would match up with sections in the current Graduate School ByLaws. The sections would be divided into the selection process and secondly, the roles and responsibilities of Coordinators. Then approval of these, as changes to the bylaws, would be submitted to the Graduate Faculty.

- **Fund Raising for Graduate Programs** - The search and interview process is ongoing. The interview team wants to find someone who will really fit in with the kind of fund raising they will be doing. Draft fund raising projects will be distributed at the next meeting for the Graduate Council’s (information only and not for distribution). Graduate Coordinators have blank proposal forms already if they wish to put forth a request specifically for their program.

**IV. New Business**

- **Coop Courses for Graduate Credit** - Traditionally, Coop courses have not been accepted in the Graduate School for credit since there is little control by the program area over what goes on while the student is participating in Coop. Dean Kovar had a chart that indicated the programs that had the Coop courses and whether or not it would count toward the degree. This issue will be discussed again in the near future.

- **Guidelines for Development, Review, Revision, and Approval of Graduate Programs** - This document was originally a part of the Handbook from which Graduate School Bylaws were developed. This section was removed as it was viewed more as procedural rather than bylaws. The Dean clarified some elements of the document and took suggestions from the Graduate Council for changes. She asked that the Graduate Council share this document with their departments and indicated Coordinators had not received this yet. This document will also be revisited at a future meeting.

**V. As May Arise**

- No items noted

Adjourned at 4:00 PM