Minutes of Graduate Council Meeting

The Graduate Council met on Thursday, December 6, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. in Devlin Hall 2nd floor conference room.


Dr. Wright chaired the meeting as Dean Kovar and Associate Dean Eichhorn were out of town.

I. Approve Minutes of November 15, 2007 meeting
Minutes of the November 15, 2007 meeting were approved as distributed.

II. Old Business
a. Council members agreed that three CDs of theses and dissertations will be distributed by the Graduate School (copies sent to student, committee chair, and the department). This procedure will be effective for distribution of CDs at the end of the fall 2007 semester.

b. Council members discussed and agreed to accept IELTS scores (for English proficiency instead of the TOEFL) for a trial 3-year period beginning with fall 2008 through fall 2011. (Minimum overall band score of 6.5). Council will re-consider this acceptance policy in the fall of 2011.

III. New Business
Dr. Marty Shawver, joined Council, as chair of the Globalization Committee, to discuss current issues and make recommendations about how to better globalize WSU. Shelly Belles, with Spirit AeroSystems, also joined Council as a member of the Globalization Committee. Dr. Shawver asked Council members to address the following questions (she recorded the discussion):

1. What measures have you taken to ensure that the students in your programs are prepared for life in a highly interconnected and interdependent world with an increasingly diverse population?
2. Explain how your unit promotes or provides opportunities for students and for faculty to gain experience interacting with people of other cultures as part of their co-curricular activities (through such things as global learning, faculty-led study abroad or international exchange opportunities?)
3. Describe your experience in hosting international scholars? (Housing arrangements, travel, use of facilities/lab., resources to support activity) Overall, was this an easy or difficult transaction? Please describe any obstacles to these activities?
4. What new approaches to teaching and curriculum design should be used to prepare the students for life in a highly interconnected and interdependent world with an increasingly diverse population?
5. What do you see as a priority for WSU to expand global research collaboration? (For example faculty development).
6. How does the current organizational structure for international admissions function for you? What, if any changes, are necessary to make this more functional/efficient?
7. How is the campus culture conducive or not conducive to globalization?
8. What changes are needed to enhance WSU’s global/internationalization focus?

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.