

UNL Graduate Council Minutes  
Meeting of January 13, 2011

The UNL Graduate Council convened at 3:30 p.m. in Room 206 of Seaton Hall. Present were: Professors Andrea Bolland, Elizabeth Jones, Susan Lawrence, Mark van Roojen, and and Thomas Zorn; student representatives Laura Lynch and Sylvia Jons; Ex-officio members: Acting Dean Kim Espy and Assistant Dean Laurie Bellows; Suzi Tamerius, Office of Graduate Studies, Jan Hostetler, Director of Graduate Admissions and Jane Schneider, Office of Graduate Studies. Acting Dean Kim Espy presided.

November 11, 2010 Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously.

Proposal for a Specialization in Ethnic Studies

A motion was made and seconded to approve a new specialization in Ethnic Studies. The motion passed unanimously.

Proposal for a Specialization in Engineering Management for the Masters of Engineering degree program

A motion was made and seconded to approve a new specialization in Engineering Management for the Masters of Engineering degree program. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Proposal to Change the Minimum TOEFL Score

Discussion centered on the current minimum TOEFL score required for international students to be admitted to graduate school. Jan Hostetler, director of graduate admissions presented a proposal to change the current minimum TOEFL score required for international students from 61 to 70. Graduate Studies also is proposing that international students who submit a score of 100 or higher, with a writing subscore of 25 or higher, be exempt from taking the English Placement Exam. After discussion Council members directed Acting Dean Espy to survey graduate departments for their input on the two proposals. A motion was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

GSA Report

Laura Lynch, GSA President reported on the GSA's major goals for this year:

- Obtain better representation in University committees. If graduate students are needed on any ASUN committees, ASUN has agreed to contact GSA.
- Create better outreach to graduate students; the GSA has received approval to send one email message per semester to graduate students and has created a newsletter.
- Develop a welcome guide to provide students essential locations on-campus and in Lincoln.
- Schedule meetings with the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Chancellor, and Board of Regents.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.