Committee on Academic Programs and Continuing Education
APACE

Minutes of June 3, 1997 Meeting

Present:


Absent:


Guest:

Marcia Pearl

The meeting was called to order at 3:07 p.m. by John Newman, chair. Dr. Newman welcomed everyone to the last APACE meeting of the academic year. The first order of business was the approval of the May 13, 1997 minutes. There being no discussion, the minutes were approved.

The next agenda item was discussion of the joint Ph.D. degree in Public Policy with Georgia Tech. Tim Renick presented the proposal which is being sent forward to the Board of Regents for approval. The joint Ph.D. program is an innovative one. The degree will be awarded from both Georgia State and Georgia Tech. There have been administrative concerns that have been discussed and worked out over the last few months. Approximately 40 faculty from Georgia State and 20 faculty from Georgia Tech are formally involved in this program. The goal is to draw on the strengths from both institutions. Dr. Renick moved that the proposal be approved as presented. The motion was seconded. Space issues were discussed. The plan is to have an office on both campuses for the director of the program. Tech will continue with their existing Ph.D. degree program in Public Policy as well as collaborating with Georgia State on this program. Their program is a much narrower one that the joint program. Steve Manson asked about the reality of Tech putting students in the joint program rather than their own program. Paula Dressel stated that they only way Georgia State was going to get a Ph.D. program in Public Policy so soon after Georgia Tech was approved for one was to join in this collaborative effort. A vote was taken, the motion passed.

The next agenda item was discussion, lead by Fenwick Huss, of the Master of Physical Therapy Degree. This degree will represent a phase-out of the current baccalaureate degree with an expanded and more advanced program. The department has a very strong core of faculty in the
behavioral areas and sciences and the department and college are committed to recruiting new faculty with doctorates in Physical Therapy and related sciences that are needed to complement the existing faculty. The motion was made and seconded to approve this proposal. There was discussion about what baccalaureate requirements the students would have to meet to be accepted into this program. Marcia Pearl stated that the Master's degree has become the entry level degree for physical therapists. The accreditation body of physical therapy has informed institutions that they will no longer accredit baccalaureate degrees because the practice has become so complex. Ahmed Abdelal questioned the stated admission requirements because coursework in the biological sciences was not mentioned. It was explained that applicants will have to pass an examination in the biological sciences. The MPT will be the entry level degree for the profession, the current MS degree is the post-professional degree. A vote was taken, the motion passed.

Next on the agenda was an update on the Biology and Chemistry program reviews. Dr. Newman distributed the reports on these programs. There were no comments or questions on either review. Dr. Newman brought the issue of underfunding to the attention of the committee. He stated that the committee should continue to encourage the university to continue its efforts in funding GRAs, GLAs, and GTAs. Paula Stephan commented that the standard figure for graduate research assistantships nationally is $16,000 per year. Dr. Abdelal stated that many departments make offers to students regarding funding, but specify that it is renewable yearly based on their academic performance.

Paula Dressel commended the Graduate Council and the Academic Program Review Committee for all the work that they have done this year. Their reports are consistent in terms of the issues that are explored and the questions that are raised. She acknowledged that committee members have spent many hours working on these issues. She appreciates the quality of their work and their goodwill.

The next item of business was subcommittee preferences. The charge of each subcommittee was stated: Undergraduate Council - reviews proposals for new academic undergraduate degrees and related issues; Graduate Council - reviews new graduate programs and related issues; Academic Programs Review Committee - reviews self-study reports, typically four to six reviews a year; Quality Improvement - reviews the quality improvement proposals that are submitted and ranks them; Research Center Review - reviews center proposals for research; Service/Outreach - reviews non-research center proposals; Ad Hoc Library - an on-again, off-again joint committee with Research, Budget and Library Advisory. This committee was formed to develop guidelines for the Library to use when deciding how to budget their funds. Strategic Planning - work with the Provost in determining strategic allocations in the action plan of the strategic plan. Internationalizing Education - review proposals for competitive, internal funds for international education.

The schedule of meetings was discussed. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Nell Stone
substitute recorder
Please send questions or comments to Mary Nell Stone