

Winthrop University Graduate Faculty Assembly -- Minutes

October 10, 2008; Plowden Auditorium

I. Call to order

Dr. Kristi Westover called the meeting to order at 2:45 pm.

II. Welcoming remarks

Dr. Westover thanked Dr. Linda Pickett from the College of Education for her willingness to serve as secretary. She is still looking for a parliamentarian. If you have an interest or know of someone with an interest to serve in this capacity, please let Dr. Westover know.

III. Approval of Minutes from April 25, 2008 Graduate Faculty Assembly

The minutes of the August 22, 2008 meeting were accepted as submitted.

IV. Report from Graduate Council.

Dr. Kelly Richardson

A. *Approved Curriculum Proposals (College of Arts and Sciences)*

1. **Modify SCWK614. Change:** Catalog Title **from:** Advanced Social Welfare Policy **to:** Social Welfare Policy II.
2. **Modify: SCWK623. Change:** Catalog Title **from:** Advanced Social Work Intervention **to:** Psychopathology and Empowerment Practice; **Change:** Catalog Description **from:** This is an advanced intervention course that emphasizes the critical examination within the context of the NASW Code of Ethics of best practice strategies that promote resilience and sense of coherence for client systems in practice settings. This examination involves the development and implementation of culturally appropriate interventions that are based on best practice research findings and the critical evaluation of one's own social work practice in practice settings. **To:** This course will focus on psychopathology and social work practice. Major mental illnesses across the life cycle will be explored, along with their impact across client populations and systems. Social work assessment and intervention approaches for social work practice with people who have mental illness will be addressed. The course will emphasize an empowerment-based perspective that affirms client strengths and coping capacities within a context of professional social work values and ethics, social justice, and affirmation of the human rights of diverse groups of people relative to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, ability, and socioeconomic class. **Change:** Prerequisites **from:** SCWK 610, SCWK 611, SCWK 612, and SCWK 614. Social Work majors only. **To:** Graduate status; graduate non-degree status; or permission of instructor.
3. **Add: SCWK624.** Psychodiagnostics and Social Work Practice (3:3:0). This course will focus on psychodiagnostics and social work practice. The utility of DSM- related assessment,

diagnosis and differential diagnosis as applied in advanced social work practice with people who have mental illness will be addressed. The course will emphasize an empowerment-based perspective that affirms client strengths and coping capacities within a context of professional social work values and ethics, social justice, and affirmation of the human rights of diverse groups of people relative to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, ability, and socioeconomic class. Prerequisite(s): Graduate status; graduate non-degree status; or, permission of instructor. Notes: Offered periodically.

4. **Modify: SCWK642. Change:** Catalog title **from:** Advanced Practice in Health/Mental Health (3: **to:** Advanced Practice in Health/Mental Health (3:3:0). **Change:** Catalog Description **from:** This is an advanced practice course that emphasizes the critical examination within the context of the NASW Code of Ethics of best practice strategies that promote resilience and sense of coherence for clients in health/mental health settings. This examination involves the development and implementation of culturally appropriate interventions that are based on best practice research findings and the critical evaluation of one's own social work practice in health/mental health settings. **To:** This course focuses on advanced social work practice in health and mental health arenas. Concepts of advanced social work assessment and intervention relative to current evidence-based practice modalities are addressed. An emphasis is placed on the continuum of knowledge and skill development needed for effective practice within health and mental health systems. This course is based on an empowerment-based perspective that affirms client strengths and coping capacities within a context of professional social work values and ethics, social justice, and affirmation of human rights of diverse groups of people relative to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, ability, and socioeconomic class.

B. Approved Graduate Faculty Nominations

1. **Heather Evans-Anderson**, College of Arts and Sciences, Assistant Professor of Biology, PhD, University of South Carolina
2. **Courtney Starrett**, College of Visual and Performing Arts , Assistant Professor, MFA Tyler School of Art of Temple University

The next meeting is November 21, 2008.

V. Additional Reports

A. Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Tom Moore

Dr. Moore offered to answer any questions and thanked Dr. Murnane for her fine work and the success of the transition to The Graduate School. Things are moving as he hoped they would. If anyone has any comments about the transition Dr. Moore would like to hear them via telephone, email, or personal conversation.

B. Dean of the Graduate School

Dr. Yvonne Murnane was not in attendance and asked Dr. Westover to deliver her report.

Thanks you to Dr. Westover for delivering this report to the Graduate Faculty Assembly. I am sorry that I am not with you today.

The first meeting of the Graduate Student Advisory Council occurred on September, 26th, 2008. There are 6 students participating-representing each of the Colleges.

- a. There is a two-fold purpose for the Advisory Council: 1) opportunity for students to give feedback and address issues that are of concern for graduate students; and 2) opportunity for The Graduate School to discuss ideas and issues relevant to graduate education.
- b. The students presented two issues of importance: 1) graduate assistantships (pay, application deadlines, and posting or advertising of all assistantships); and 2) creating a mechanism or repository where graduate students, faculty, and others can submit information on what graduate students are accomplishing. The students would like to know what each other are doing and use this as a way to promote the Winthrop name nationwide.
- c. Margaret Williamson is leading this student council which plans to meet once a month during the academic year. The next meeting is October 24th.

Thanks to the work of Dr. Derksen's design class, a Graduate School 'look' is being designed for all of the graduate programs to use in brochures and other marketing tools. The goal is to have Winthrop graduate education easily recognized wherever we go. We have received student input on possible designs and will continue to involve students as the design process evolves.

The Graduate School and Graduate Council is looking at the thesis process and procedures. The goal is to clarify, perhaps simplify, the procedures for both students and faculty. There is a small task force that will work with Dean Murnane on this issue.

Based on the recommendation from the Faculty Governance Review Committee Report of April 25th, 2008 the Graduate Council will review graduate faculty status criteria and a suggestion for a periodic review of graduate faculty status that is tied to goals and responsibilities.

The Faculty Manual does not include formal procedures to elect the Chair of Graduate Faculty Assembly, and this was reported in the Faculty Governance Review Report of April 25th, 2008. I have asked Dr. Westover to put together a task force to make recommendations on an election procedure. The procedures for electing a Faculty Conference Chair will be used as a framework.

Enrollment (as of October 1, 2008)

Degree Seeking 795

Special	281 (non-degree and WPDC students)
Total	1076

I am working with the Registrar, Tim Drueke, to identify students who are non-degree seeking and students who are WPDC. This will help us to better know our graduate population.

New Applications (as of September 1, 2008)

Applications for fall 524

Admitted Students 346

Registered 251

About 73% admitted students have registered for this fall.

There is a new Administrative Specialist in the Graduate School, and her name is Rose Mary Corbett. Rose Mary comes with several years of graduate school experience by working in the Graduate Chemical Engineering Department at USC. Please stop by to meet her.

Questions for the Graduate Faculty Assembly members: What would you find helpful in future Dean's reports? Please make suggestions directly to Dr. Westover or myself.

Respectively Submitted,
Yvonne Murnane
Dean, The Graduate School

VI. Unfinished Business

There was no other unfinished business.

VII. New Business

A. Dr. Westover asked for volunteers to serve on the task force to determine formal procedures to elect the Chair of Graduate Faculty Assembly. Interested members of the Graduate Faculty Conference should contact Dr. Westover via email or after the meeting.

VIII. Announcements

There were no other announcements.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dr. Linda Pickett.