

**Amended Minutes of a Special Meeting
of the Graduate Programs Council
January 17, 2007**

Members present: Dorothy Doolittle (Associate Provost and Director of Graduate Studies), David Hibler, Roberta Rosenberg, Nigel Sellars, Marsha Sprague, Gary Whiting
Also present: Lisa Duncan Raines (University Registrar), Lyn Sawyer (Associate Director of Graduate Admissions and Records), Donna Shelton (Registrar's Office) and Marilyn Harris (recording)

A special meeting of the Graduate Programs Council (GPC) was held on January 17, 2007 for the purpose of approving alternatives to the five-year program in order to comply with Section 2.7.1 of the SACS Compliance Certificate. This section states degree programs are required to be based on at least 120 semester credit hours at the baccalaureate level and at least 30 semester credits hours at the graduate level. The preliminary findings were that CNU is in non-compliance on the five-year programs due to the total number of credit hours required for completion of both the baccalaureate and master's degrees.

MAT

Dr. Sprague, the MAT Program Coordinator, stated three options were considered. The program change she proposed is as follows:

MAT Five-year Curriculum Change

Previously a five-year student would enroll in nine graduate credit hours during the senior year. The proposed change is a five-year student will enroll in six graduate credit hours during the senior year and take an additional three credits of graduate coursework during the fall semester of the graduate year. This will place 30 credit hours on the graduate transcript. Should the five-year student take nine graduate credit hours during the senior year, one additional three-credit graduate course will be transferred to the graduate transcript, assuming that the student has 123 or more total credit hours at the undergraduate level.

Undergraduate Status

6 credits	Graduate Courses taken in senior year
<u>114 credits</u>	Undergraduate Courses
120 credits	Total

Graduate Status

9 credits	Summer
12 credits	Fall
<u>9 credits</u>	Spring
30 credits	Total for MAT

NOTE: If the student takes nine graduate credit hours as a senior, then the plan would be:

Undergraduate Status

9 credits	Graduate Courses taken in senior year
<u>114 credits</u>	Undergraduate Courses
123 credits	Total

MAT Five-year Curriculum Change con't.

Graduate Status

3 credits	Graduate Course transferred from senior year
9 credits	Summer
9 credits	Fall
<u>9 credits</u>	<u>Spring</u>
30 credits	Total for MAT

Approved by a motion.

Transfer of Credits to Graduate Transcript

Dr. Doolittle asked Lisa Duncan Raines, University Registrar, to explain the transfer of credit hours. Lisa stated the transcript reflects the work at the student level, not the course level. If an undergraduate student completes a graduate course and it is to be moved to a graduate transcript it will be treated the same as transfer credit, meaning the course and credit hours will show on the graduate transcript but the course and grade remain on the undergraduate transcript.

MS in Environmental Science Five-year Curriculum Change

Dr. Whiting, the M.S. in ENVS Program Coordinator, proposed the following curriculum change:

MS in ENVS Five-year Curriculum Change

During the senior year, the five-year student will enroll in nine graduate credit hours of which four credits will be moved to the graduate transcript. During the fifth year, the student will complete 26 graduate credit hours. The 26 credits plus the four graduate credits transferred from the undergraduate transcript will total 30 graduate credit hours on the graduate transcript.

Dr. Whiting stated the five-year student will be required to do the thesis option in order to complete the curriculum within the five years. Those students who enter the traditional master's program will not be eligible for the 30 credit thesis option; it will remain at 33 credits.

Undergraduate Status

2 credits	Graduate Course ENVS 505 taken in senior year
2 credits	Graduate Pre-thesis Proposal Course taken in senior year
4 credits	Graduate Course taken in senior year (to be moved to Graduate Transcript)
<u>116 credits</u>	<u>Undergraduate Courses</u>
124 credits	Total

Graduate Status

4 credits	Graduate Course transferred from Undergraduate Transcript
2 credits	Summer
12 credits	Fall
<u>12 credits</u>	<u>Spring</u>
30 credits	Total for MS in ENVS

Approved by a motion.

MS in Applied Physics and Computer Science Five-year Curriculum Change

Dr. Hibler, the M.S. in APCS Program Coordinator, proposed the following change:

MS in APCS Five-year Curriculum Change

During the senior year, the five-year student will enroll in six graduate credit hours that will be transferred to the graduate transcript. The student will be responsible to complete 120 credits for the undergraduate degree plus six graduate credits which total 126 credits.

At the graduate level, the student will enroll in 12 graduate credits for both fall and spring semesters. The six graduate credit hours taken in the senior year will be moved the graduate transcript to total 30 graduate credit hours.

For the five-year students the non-thesis option will change from 36 credits to 30 credits. The students accepted into the five-year program will be encouraged to do the non-thesis option in order to complete the degree within the five years. The thesis option, which is also 30 credits, is more difficult to do within this time frame. For those students who enter the traditional master's program, the non-thesis option will remain at 36 credits.

Undergraduate Status

3 credits	Graduate Course taken in senior year (to be moved to Graduate Transcript)
3 credits	Graduate Course taken in senior year (to be moved to Graduate Transcript)
<u>120 credits</u>	Undergraduate Courses
126 credits	Total

Graduate Status

6 credits	Graduate Courses transferred from Undergraduate Transcript
12 credits	Fall
<u>12 credits</u>	Spring
30 credits	Total for MS in APCS

Approved by a motion.

Implementation

These changes will be implemented as follows:

Junior or senior level students accepted in 2006-2007 to a five-year program that enables them to take graduate level course work beginning in summer terms 2007 or academic year 2007-2008 will be required to follow the new five-year program curriculum.

It was suggested the next graduate catalog clearly state that the student is responsible to follow the prescribed curriculum in order to complete the master's degree program within five years. If this is not done, completion in five years is not guaranteed.

Announcements

Dr. Doolittle announced the dates of the Graduate Programs Council meetings for spring semester as: January 24, February 28, March 28, and April 25 at 8:30 a.m. in the Madison Room. It was decided the Graduate Faculty meeting will be scheduled for April 26, 2007 from 12:15-1:00 p.m.

Timing of Transfer of Credits to Graduate Transcript

The last point of discussion was when the transfer of credits would occur. It was determined the graduate credits will be placed on the graduate transcript fall semester of the fifth year. The Registrar's Office will develop a form to be completed by the Program Coordinators in order to identify which courses are to be moved.

Dr. Doolittle adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Harris