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2-25-2010

## Graduate Council Meeting : 2010 : 02 : 25

Graduate Council

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### Scholar Commons Citation

Graduate Council, "Graduate Council Meeting : 2010 : 02 : 25" (2010). *USF St. Petersburg Faculty Senate Committee: Graduate Council: Meetings*. 21.

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**USF ST. PETERSBURG**  
**GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, February 25, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Michael Sampson (COE) at 11:00 a.m. in COQ 201

Attending were: Bonnie Braun (COE), Jerry Lander (COB), Michael Sampson (COE), Donna Knudsen (Graduate Studies), Jim Schnur (LIB), Monica Postelnicu Ancu (CAS)

Regrets: Wei Guan (COB) Sabbatical; Deni Elliott (CAS)

Guest: Lisa Starks-Estes (CAS); Chair, Department of Languages, Literature, and Writing

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 21<sup>ST</sup> MEETING**

After review, the Council accepted the minutes as presented for February 18, 2010 on a unanimous voice vote. Jerry will submit these minutes for placement on the webpage to Donna Knudsen, Director of Graduate Studies and to Brianne Reck, President of the Faculty Senate.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Program Revisions**

Lisa Starks-Estes (CAS) presented a request for a change in the Master of Liberal Arts (MLA) in the Florida Studies Program. The Master of Liberal Arts Degree was initially developed not only to offer students the concentration of Florida Studies but also, at a future date, to provide students with additional options for study. This proposed change would provide these options now by offering two new “build-your-own” tracks for students: 1) Focused Studies in Liberal Arts and 2) Interdisciplinary Studies in Liberal Arts.

In the Focused Studies track, students explore a particular subject from within the larger perspective of the liberal arts, earning 18 of the 33 required hours in a specific discipline. As part of their core requirements, students may take courses in pedagogy and education, theory, or research methods, which would enable them to teach at the community college level (with the 18hrs), continue on for the Ph.D., or

work in areas related to their chosen field of study. In the Interdisciplinary Studies track, students build their own unique degree from various disciplines (e.g., culture and the environment, ethics and the workplace, social justice and engagement—to name some possibilities), preparing them for future study or professional careers in related areas, including work for non-profits and other businesses. Please see the attached detailed proposal.

The proposal was discussed extensively by the Graduate Council. Several suggested changes were made. Lisa is going to make the agreed upon suggested changes in conjunction with the CAS Academic Programs Committee. Once the CAS Academic Programs Committee approves the changes and makes changes of their own, Lisa will resubmit the proposal to Michael Sampson, Chair of the USFSP Graduate Studies Committee, who will then distribute it to the committee members for their review by email. If there is general agreement of the revised proposal, there will be a vote by email. If not, a special meeting will have to be called for further discussion.

### **Future Meetings**

Our next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM in COQ 201.

Chris Meindle (CAS) has been rescheduled to present an overview of their Masters program in Environmental Science and Policy on March 18<sup>th</sup> in COQ 201.

The remaining meeting for the semester will be April 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Program Revisions Approved on February 18, 2010**

The proposal for Changes to the Master of Liberal Arts (MLA) in the Florida Studies Program presented by Ray Arsenault (CAS) was unanimously approved in good faith by the USFSP Graduate Council on said date. However, the document was not signed previously by the Chair, College Curriculum Committee and the Chair of the College Council, both being Chaired by Thomas Smith. It is the understanding that the signed document will be presented to the USFSP Graduate Council for confirmation of proper signatures. Without proper confirmation of signatures, the previous approval in good faith by the USFSP Graduate Council is null and void.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Lander