

Minutes

New Mexico Council of Graduate Deans
University of New Mexico, Scholes Hall 100
November 22, 2004

Members Present: Teresita Aguilar (UNM), Linda Lacey (NMSU), David Johnson (NMT), and Junius Logan (WNMU; joining late). Phillip Shelley (ENMU) represented by proxy. The meeting was called to order at 9:06 A.M. by David Johnson

1) New Business – Approval of new graduate programs

- a. **MS degree in Construction Management.** This program is for students who are interested in the management side of construction, not so much interested in the technical side. Courses are in place to begin this program. UNM started looking into this program about 3 1/2 years ago and this program is in high demand. Most students who apply have an architectural or business background.
- b. **Masters of Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing.** The department currently offers an MA in writing. Until recently the number of faculty in Creative Writing has been too small to pursue this degree. Recent hires have provided the staffing to support this emphasis. The department seeks to replace the MA in Writing with the MFA. One in teaching and one in professional writing. They have a large interest in this program.
Johnson asked how this program would affect existing programs. It was explained what the difference in this program would be compared to what is already in place and what changes would be made to the existing programs.

There followed a discussion related to the process following approval by the NMCGD. Aguilar informed us that she had been informed by Holder that the Academic Council would not hear this, but that it should proceed directly to the CHE staff. It was agreed that Holder and Gerity would be consulted regarding the continued existence of the Academic Council.

Both the MS degree in Construction Management and the Masters of Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing were approved unanimously.

- 2) **Approval of the Minutes of the June 2, 2004 NMCGD's meeting** - Johnson called for a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. The motion was seconded and approved.

3) Announcements

- a. Web Pages - Added pointers to CIP 2000 codes and to NM State Code (incl. 5 NMAC 5.2). A link to the NM Legislature will be added.

4) In the Pipeline - New Graduate Programs

- a. NMSU is thinking about adding a PhD in Nursing. The proposal for an MS degrees in Counseling & Educational Psychology is stalled. There may be a

- proposal forthcoming for an MS degree in Environmental Sciences and Ecology coming out of Wildlife Sciences. NMSU is exploring 5-year UG and Graduate programs.
- b. **UNM** – A certificate program in Women Studies has been approved at the graduate council level. A proposal for an MS in Computer Engineering is nearing the final stages of internal approval. Other proposals are being discussed in Biomedical Sciences.
 - c. **NMT** – There are no graduate programs in the pipeline at NMT.
 - d. **WNMU** – Masters in Computer Security coming forward, but has not cleared the graduate council.

5) **Old Business**

- a. **Draft on Approval of Certificate Programs** – Aguilar has received encouragement from Letitia Chambers to streamline certificate approval. There is a need to differentiate between certificate programs that require additional resources and those that do not.
 - 1. For programs which are built on existing programs and that would utilize existing resources, approval should be at a level below the CHE. These types of programs might go through NMCGD for approval and then to CHE as an information item.
 - 2. For programs which are not built on existing programs and that will require expanded resources, certificate approval might follow existing practice.

Modifications to the draft are to include reference to the potential for providing certificates for national lab employees and members of the military as part of the workforce served. A discussion followed regarding the definition of certificate programs and the credit hour maximums and minimums. Does course work used toward a certificate count towards a subsequent graduate degree? Johnson observed that it was pre-mature to have this discussion at this time and suggested that we get the document to the CHE to see if they want us to move forward on this. It was agreed that these matters would be considered by the graduate councils on each campus and that these recommendations would be considered in developing a recommendation. Aguilar will circulate an amended draft to NMCGD members.

- b. **PhD Completion Program** – Lacey submitted an NMSU proposal to the PhD Completion Project. NMSU is a Participating Project Partner. Lacey stated she would be willing to share her proposal if anyone was interested. Johnson stated that he would definitely be interested in looking at her proposal.

6) **New Business**

- a. **NMCGD Approval Process For New Graduate Degrees** - Johnson presented a version of the NMCGD approval process for new graduate degrees based on how it has been done in the past. Would like any input. Would also like to make this available on the web page so that the departments can take a look at it. Aguilar suggested that the quorum was set too high. A discussion followed regarding use of proxies and the optimum number for Council members attending. Johnson observed that the more votes that we have behind the consideration (both yea, and nay) the more credibility our recommendation has. It was agreed that the draft would be discussed collectively. Johnson expressed disappointment at the small number of universities represented at this meeting of the NMCGD.
- b. **UNM Masters in Computer Engineering** - students will continue take the same course that they are taking now but it will shift from being a concentration to getting the degree in computer engineering. UNM proposal approved November 9th by the Board of Regents and now needs to go to the Graduate Council. Dave stated that we would need this by the middle of the week of December 13th if the NMCGD and other entities can act on it if there is any chance to have it finalized for Fall admissions. Dave stated that as soon as he receives this he will have it up on the web. Possible meeting the last week of January.

Graduate Scholarship Funding – Lacey reported on a proposed bill for funding from racetrack betting that would generate money to be used for Graduate Scholarship funding adding funding to our graduate programs. Would like to develop a proposal on how this money should be used. Have graduate deans review it. Would like to tie it "Community Service Graduate Scholarship Program". Full Calendar year GAship. Would build a relationship between the university and the community.

Discussion item#1 - whether non-residents can obtain a Fellowship. Find out whether graduates students are staying in New Mexico or if they are going elsewhere. Students doing Internships are expected to stay in the area. How many hours is feasible? It was decided that 200 hours would be mentioned in the proposal.

Discussion item #2 - Should scholarships be limited to NM resident students? It was observed that nonresident domestic students can apply for New Mexico residency after they have been in New Mexico for one year. It was observed that the best interns are usually second year students rather than your first year students. It was suggested that limiting this program to NM residents might make it more palatable to the legislature. Lacey will meet with State Legislators and keep everyone informed.

7) **Informal Discussion**

- 8) **Scheduling of Next Meeting** - last week of January, New Mexico State offered to have the next meeting at their University. Johnson expressed goal of having meetings at ENMU and one at WNMU.

- 9) **Adjournment** - Motion was made to adjourn.