

MINUTES

New Mexico Council of Graduate Deans Meeting
NMHU Graduate School
June 4, 2004

Members Present: Teresita Aguilar (UNM), Linda Lacey (NMSU), David Johnson (NMT), Junius Logan (WNMU via televideo), Linda LaGrange (NMHU), and Phil Shelley (ENMU)

Guests: Guy Jacobus (CHE)

1. The meeting was called to order at 11:05 am.
2. The minutes of the April 23, 2004 meeting were approved with minor typographical corrections.
3. Announcements:
 - a. Shelly circulated email announcements from Quality New Mexico soliciting volunteers to serve on the 2004 Board of Examiners and offering graduate credit or CEUs through WNMU for Board training, and a UNM Strengthening Quality in Schools (SQS) program that offers graduate credit to participants. Shelly inquired about the process by which approval was granted for such graduate courses. Logan asked that he be provided a copy of the announcements so that he could determine WNMU's commitment to this program and the process by which graduate credit is approved. The concern is not for awarding CEU credits, but for graded graduate credits that might later be used for degree completion. The matter was left unresolved and will be revisited at the next meeting of the NMCGDs with reports from each campus on the process by which courses offered for graduate credit are approved.
 - b. Jacobus indicated that Maria Martinez (CHE Analyst) is heading up the CHE interaction with the Governor's Task Force. Martinez will be invited to the next meeting to bring the Council up to date on what has transpired.
4. Pipeline And Campus Reports
 - a. **NMSU** – Masters degree in School Counseling currently collecting input from other state universities. Timing of circulation to NMCGDs is uncertain, but presumed to be late Fall 2004. Ph.D. Nursing – unsure of faculty status.
 - b. **NMHU** – Cultural Resource Management (CRM) program in preparation as a certificate program. Design Studies program in collaboration with the Albuquerque Museum of Art is being studied which could result in new M.S. degree. Twelve to 18 months at the earliest for these programs.
 - c. **WNMU** – This summer planning is underway for building an M.S. Management Information Systems program on the existing undergraduate

program. Speculation is that this program might be ready for consideration by the NMCGDs by Spring 2005. It was observed that this would likely not permit starting the program for Fall 2005.

- d. **ENMU** – There are currently two certificate programs under consideration at ENMU in Relearning and Forensics. There is reluctance to proceed until the approval process for certificates is known.
- e. **UNM** – Masters in Construction Management proposal is complete. Only supporting documents remain to be provided to NMCGDs and will be ready to consider in early Fall. A proposal for an MFA in Creative Writing is in the UNM internal review process. Timing is uncertain, but may be ready in Fall. A certificate program in Women’s Studies is circulating across campus.
- f. **NMT** – There are no new graduate programs in the pipeline.

5. Old Business

- a. Input to the Governor’s Task Force on Higher Education – consensus that the NMCGDs want to have input to various aspects of Task Force considerations. Important points to be made include:
 - i. **Student Success** (Working Group 1)
 - NMCGDs should define graduate student success including qualitative considerations.
 - Recognizing that CGS is currently undertaking standardization of data, NMCGDs should assure that data collection in New Mexico is consistent with national standards.
 - ii. **Effective Higher Education Governance** (Working Group 2)
 - Seek to provide input on the cumbersome nature of graduate program approval.
 - Develop CHE staff continuity for long-term efficiency of operations.
 - Graduate students are more portable and are more likely to leave the state.
 - iii. **Adequate and Efficient Financing of Higher Education** (Working Group 3)
 - Communicate need for additional support for graduate students (tuition waivers, greater amounts for stipends).
 - iv. **Increasing Accountability, Efficiency and Excellence in the Higher Education System** (Working Group 4)
 - Offer examples of existing performance measures – “don’t reinvent the wheel.”
 - v. **Workforce Development** (Working Group 5)
 - Communicate the insensitivity of current graduate approval process to rapidly changing needs of New Mexico’s workforce.
 - Assure data consistency and validity.
 - A large percentage of New Mexico Graduate students are also part of the NM work force and continue their educations as part-time students.

- Communicate the relationship between graduate education and New Mexico economic and community development.

The bullets above, will be placed in the form of a letter addressed to Toney Anaya (Task Force Chair) with copies to the co-chairs of each of the individual working groups.

- Other Old Business – Shelley inquired about whether other campuses had been informed regarding funding for New Mexico Minority Scholarships. Some are aware of that funding. Jacobus recommended that questions might be directed to Jim Perry of the CHE.

6. New Business

- Consideration of Changes to Graduate Certificate Approval Process** – Aguilar will circulate to NMCGDs a draft proposal originating from discussions at UNM that would simplify and hasten the approval of certain types of certificate programs. The basis of the proposal is to remove certificate program from the categories subject to the detailed approval process outlined in 5 NMAC 5.2. This would allow increased responsiveness to changing economic needs. The UNM proposal will be circulated to the NMCGDs, considered at the next meeting and if approved, sent to the CHE.
- Council of Graduate Schools Ph.D. Attrition Request for Proposal** – CGS will have money available to support a Ph.D. completion project. Lacey would like for New Mexico graduate universities to respond with a proposal that will develop data collection and development of best practices that would reduce attrition of NM graduate students. Lacey will provide an expanded outline of a prospectus for the proposal, which will be reviewed by members of the Council.
- CGS Government Relations Task Force** – Aguilar got a call about serving on a task force that will provide feedback to CGS on how they might be more responsive to governmental issues. A goal is to look at strategies to deliver the message about graduate education to politicians at all levels.

- Creating a source for NMCGD Information – members are encouraged to make suggestions regarding items for inclusion on the NMCGDs web pages. In particular, Johnson asked Shelley if a digital copy of the Council’s bylaws could be sent and all members are asked to provide copies of minutes from previous meetings. Aguilar will look through the file left by Robin Maes Growkowski.
- Jacobus will provide information on staff areas of interest at CHE.
- Jacobus sees some value in having the NMCGDs make a presentation to the Educational Programs subcommittee of the CHE and then to the CHE regarding

the details of internal graduate program approval processes at the states universities. The next meeting is scheduled for August.

10. Meeting Calendar for Fall 2004 – It appears that there will be need for two Fall 2004 meetings of the NMCGDs – one by late August to consider the Master of Construction Management and a possible meeting in early November to consider additional programs from UNM and NMSU.

11. There being on further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted.

David Johnson