The committee on Graduate Studies (COGS) met at 1:30 p.m. on April 12, 2006 in room 210 in the University Community Center (UCC). Those in attendance were: Dr. Adel Abunawass, Dr. Jonathan R. Anderson, Dr. Daniel Bakos (substituting for Dr. Kevin Hibbard), Dr. Judy Butler, Dr. Jack Charlesworth, Dr. Ron Colley, Dr. Luke Cornelius, Dr. Linton Deck, Dr. Cathleen Doheny, Dr. Maria Doyle, Dr. Myrna Gantner (substituting for Dr. Hema Ramanathan), Dr. Jorge Gaytan, Dr. Michael Hazelkorn, Dr. Jane Hill (substituting for Dr. Marial Doyle after 2pm), Dr. Laurel Holland, Dr. Thomas Hynes (Guest), Dr. Martha Larkin, Dr. Richard Larkin, Dr. Elaine MacKinnon, Dr. Barbara McKenzie, Dr. Kathy Moffeit, Dr. Harry Morgan, Dr. John Myers, Dr. Denise Overfield (substituting for Dr. Bridgette Gunnels), Dr. Brent Snow, Dr. Sandra Stone, Dr. Laurie Taylor and Dr. Henry Zot (substituting for Dr. Deborah Lea-Fox). Dean Jack O. Jenkins presided.

I. Introductions

II. Approval of Minutes
The minutes for the March 15, 2006 meeting of the Committee on Graduate Studies were approved. One opposed. Dr. Luke Cornelius did not believe the minutes adequately reflected Dr. Adel Abunawass’ motion regarding rewriting the appeals procedures that appeared in the minutes. Dr. Cornelius stated that he believed that a motion made by Dr. Abunawass concerning revision/clarification of the Graduate School’s appeals procedure directed COGS’s members to bring their appeals procedures to this meeting. Dr. Abunawass and Dean Jenkins both stated that was not the case. Dr. Abunawass stated that in his motion he had seated that COGS’ members should transmit their appeals procedures to the Graduate School “as soon as possible” but did not state that a decision on the Graduate School’s appeals process would be decided at this meeting. Dr. Cornelius once again stated that he opposed the minutes of the meeting for March 15, 2006.

III. Dr. Thomas Hynes, VPAA
Dr. Hynes spoke on the interim position Dean Jenkins has accepted for the position of Special Associate to the President for Minority Affairs. Dr. Hynes stated he is in charge of appointing an interim Dean for the Graduate School. The entire membership of COGS and chairs and deans of departments with graduate programs will be asked for nominations for the position of interim dean. Dr. Hynes stated that at a time an individual is suggested for this position that the nominator defend/support the
nomination. Dr. Hynes stated that he is willing to meet with individuals to discuss their nominee and that he would find time on his calendar to do so. Dean Jenkins’ attentions will be devoted to other issues and concerns. Dr. Charlesworth asked the length of time the interim dean will be appointed. Dr. Hynes stated that all interim appointments are for a year. Discussions with Dean Jenkins are expected around November or December of this year, and the interim position will be evaluated to determine the length of the position.

IV. Report from the Subcommittee on Graduate Faculty
A. Approval of Appointment and Reappointment to Graduate Faculty
The following individuals were approved for regular appointment to the graduate faculty:

Anderson, Joseph L., Assistant Professor of History, Ph.D. Iowa State University, requested by Dr. Charles Clark.

Shook, Alison C., Assistant Professor of Special Education, Ph.D. University of Miami, requested by Dr. Michael Hazelkorn.

The following individuals were approved for regular reappointment to the graduate faculty:
- Dr. Adel Abunawass: Computer Science
- Dr. David Boldt: Economics
- Dr. Judy Butler: C&I
- Dr. James R. Colley: Accounting & Finance
- Dr. Lisa Crafton: English
- Dr. H. Steven Goodson: History
- Dr. Michael Gordon: Mathematics
- Dr. Tobin Hart: Psychology
- Dr. Joseph Hendricks: Biology
- Dr. Gregory Payne: Biology
- Dr. Brent Snow: Counseling & Educational Psychology

V. Old Business
A. Provisional Admission: GREW Scores
Dean Jenkins recommended a score of 3.0 for provisional admission to the Graduate School. Dr. Laurel Holland asked if we knew what other universities were asking? Dean Jenkins stated all we were looking at was provisional admission. The score for regular admission has already been approved. An initial motion failed for lack of clarity of the exact nature of
the issue involved. After further clarification by Dean Jenkins of what minimal criteria were for provisional admission using the GRE (100 times an applicant’s undergraduate grade point average -- as long as the grade point average was not lower than 2.2 – plus the applicant’s GRE Verbal and Quantitative scores – with neither the GRE Verbal nor the GRE Quantitative scores being lower than 350 -- must total 1000 points.) The GRE W score will not be a part of the formula. Applicants will need to make a score of at least 3.0 on the GRE W, along with satisfying other criteria specified in the above formula, to meet requirements for provisional admission. A motion was made and seconded. Dr. Cornelius asked if this would supersede any department policies that have already been established. Dean Jenkins stated that these were minimum graduate school policies. The motion was approved with 13 voting in favor, 3 voting against and 4 abstaining.

B. Course Changes
College of Arts and Sciences
Sociology
ADD
SOCI 6660 Institutional Ethnography
(The course was approved by COGS. Two abstained)

VI. New Business
A. Course Changes
College of Arts and Sciences
Foreign Languages
MODIFY
Post-baccalaureate Initial Certification (P-12) in French
(Approved by COGS)

B. Early Admission (College of Education)
A memo from the College of Education requesting a change in policy was discussed (see attached). The COE desires to offer guaranteed automatic admission to the appropriate M.Ed. program for all COE undergraduate students graduating this spring (or who graduated the last five years) who obtained a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for their bachelor’s degree. The COE is requesting that those who have graduated from its programs with a 3.5 or higher not be required to take an admissions test. Discussion ensued. Issues involved questions as to whether p-12 programs were affected and implications issuing there from, and the fairness of exempting a certain group of students from the admissions test requirement.
The Committee requested that Dean Layton be present to discuss the COE’s proposal at the next COGS’ meeting. It is also requested that Dr. Kent Layton meet with Dr. Denise Overfield, Dr. Jane Hill, Dr. Elaine MacKinnon, Dr. Laurel Holland, Dr. Bruce Landman and others who might have questions or concerns about COE’s proposal. Dr. Holland made a motion that College of Education early admission proposal be tabled and presented at the next meeting. Dr. Laurie Taylor seconded. The motion passed with 16 voting for approval, 4 voting against and 1 abstention.

C. Early Admission (Richards College of Business)

Dr. Anderson stated that the Richards College of Business will offer early admission to all undergraduate RCOB students to the MBA and MPACC program who graduate with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and who are recommended by three members of the faculty. Individuals will be admitted into the appropriate program pending acceptable GMAT scores and meeting all other Graduate School application requirements.

D. Definition of Scholarly Activity (submitted vs. published materials)

Dr. Myers, chair of the subcommittee on graduate faculty, asked how the Subcommittee on Graduate Faculty is to view an individual who has submitted materials for publication but has been unable to get them published due to the faculty member’s assertion that only a limited number of journals exist to which the articles may be submitted? Dr. Myers quoted from the Committee on Graduate Studies’ “Guidelines and Procedures for the Appointment and Reappointment of Graduate Faculty” policy which states “faculty members must present evidence that they have continued and extended scholarly activities.”

A faculty member was approved during post-tenure review and was denied reappointment three years ago due to lack of scholarship. The faculty member requested an early reappointment last year but was again denied due to lack of scholarship. In his current request for reappointment to the graduate faculty he has provided proof that he submitted two articles for publication but both were rejected. Dr. Myers asked the members of COGS to assist the subcommittee in their decision as to recommend the faculty member for regular graduate faculty status. The question is “Does COGS reappoint a faculty member based upon actual publications, or is the submission of articles for publication, although rejected, enough?”

Dr. Deck asked if publications are the only criteria? Dean Jenkins stated they were not.
The concern from various members is that he has ended his membership in all the professional organizations. Dr. Abunawass asked if this person was supported by his Department? Dr. Myers stated that yes. Dr. Abunawass believed that the process of post-tenure review and reappointment to graduate faculty were two separate processes. Dean Jenkins stated that the members of COGS have the authority to deny reappointment to graduate faculty. Dr. Cornelius stated that exemptions could be made for this one exception but the policy should not change. Dean Jenkins stated that the guidelines state that if a faculty member is denied he or she could be appointed temporary graduate faculty for up to three years. This individual was not granted temporary graduate faculty. Dean Jenkins stated that the main question is has a faculty member done enough to receive reappointment to the graduate faculty. Dr. Deck asked what Dr. Myers’ recommendation was and Dr. Myers said he would grant graduate faculty status. Dr. Gaytan stated that he believed publications should be the sole criteria. Dr. Linton Deck stated that Dean Jenkins stated that publication is not the sole criteria. Dr. Abunawass asked is the question the quality of the work? Dr. Myers said the committee is not looking at the quality of the work. Dr. Abunawass stated that those who know the quality of work would know if the faculty member is doing quality work. Dr. Abunawass said that the department chair would be best to decide the quality of work. Dean Jenkins stated that this subcommittee for graduate faculty had decided it would not be a peer review group in terms of attempting to be experts in fields that are not their own.

Dr. Hynes stated that chairs are prohibited from making comments during post-tenure review. Dean Jenkins asked the only thing we ask chairs to do is comment on a faculty member up for reappointment to the graduate faculty’s teaching ability. Dr. Cornelius stated that he recalled several years ago that the decision was taken very seriously and now the committee is being asked to make a decision that was taken seriously years ago and apparently making a motion with none of the same deliberations. Dr. Cornelius indicated that he was concerned that the committee is making a motion on an unknown individual. Dean Jenkins identified the individual.
Dr. Myers withdrew his motion. Subcommittee on Graduate Faculty member Dr. Colley spoke of his concern that he knew nothing about the faculty member’s field. Dr. Colley thought the possibility of widening his research to publish in other journals was something to consider, but then stated that perhaps that was not possible. Dr. Myers asked if he is on temporary status now. Dean Jenkins said no; his chair never requested temporary graduate faculty status for him. After further discussion the members of COGS voted to table the issue until a later time with the exception that Dean Jenkins has the authority to issue a temporary appointment to graduate faculty at the request of the department chair. Dr. Cornelius made a motion to table. Dr. Deck seconded. 13 approved, 3 opposed, 4 abstained.

F. GPA Requirement for History. Dr. Elaine MacKinnon moved that committee members approve an increase in the GPA requirement for admission to History graduate programs from 2.5 to 2.75. Dr. MacKinnon stated that had conducted research which indicates that such a change will not hurt their enrollment. The motion was seconded and approved by COGS.

G. Information Items
   1. Hirsch Scholarship
   2. Graduate Research Fellowship
Dean Jenkins indicated that the Graduate School is accepting applications for the Hirsch Scholarship and Graduate Research Fellowships. He requested that the nominations be submitted to the Graduate School Office by 5:00 p.m. on April 24th.

The meeting was adjourned. The Ed.S. Appeals Committee met afterwards.