

MINUTES
GRADUATE FACULTY ASSEMBLY
November 14, 2003

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Dwight Dimaculangan. The minutes of the August 22, 2003 Graduate Faculty Assembly were approved as distributed.

Dr. Tom Moore, Vice President for Academic Affairs, was out of town.

Dr. Wilhelmenia Rembert, Associate Vice President for Graduate Studies, briefly addressed six items. 1) Dr. Rembert met with Dr. Mark Dewalt and Dr. Joe Prus to establish guidelines for the Graduate Program review. Dr. Tom Moore asked that Dr. Rembert share the preliminary draft of these guidelines with Academic Leadership Council and the Chair of Graduate Faculty Assembly. Some feedback on the guidelines has been received. At the present time, Dr. Rembert is waiting on further feedback. Dr. Rembert will be revising the draft to include those suggestions she has received. Once the final guidelines for review are agreed upon, then the Graduate Program review will begin. Graduate programs should be reviewed with regard for consistency with the University's and undergraduate programs' mission as well as how the programs serve the needs of the state and the region. 2) Official graduate enrollment for Fall 2003 is 1,397 students, slightly below Fall 2002. Full time graduate student enrollment increased. 3) Dr. Rembert asked that if anyone was willing to help with graduate commencement and/or the graduate reception, please let Sharon Johnson know. 4) Dr. Rembert, Sharon Johnson, and Laura Carpenter met with graduate directors in September and discussed how to recognize graduates at commencement. Directors were asked to talk with their colleagues about what criteria to consider for recognizing graduate students. 5) Dr. Rembert reported that at the recent joint meeting of Academic Leadership Council and the department chairs, the topic of discussion was about how to increase minority faculty at Winthrop. One method discussed was encouraging Winthrop graduate students to pursue terminal degrees and return to Winthrop to join the faculty. 6) Dr. Rembert announced that the 2004 Conference of Southern Graduate Schools will be held in Charlotte in February. Dr. Rembert reported that a survey was being conducted by two members of the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools. The survey addresses graduate students' satisfaction with their programs. Dr. Rembert suggested that, at the least, graduate students serving on the Graduate Council be given the opportunity to respond to the survey.

Dr. Laura Dufresne, Chair of Graduate Council, reported on actions taken at the September 26, 2003 meeting. These actions included the approval of Dr. Kristi Westover Department of Biology, for membership in Graduate Faculty Assembly. Dr. DuFresne announced that the next meeting was Friday, November 21.

There was no old business.

There was no new business.

There were no announcements.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carlton Bessinger, Secretary