

**Graduate Council Meeting  
Minutes  
July 12, 2006**

**Present:** Muehsam, Miller, Plishker, Plugge, Tayebi

**I. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting, June 28, 2006**

Without a quorum, no official business could be addressed. The minutes will be subject to approval at the next meeting.

**II. Posthumous Degree**

Dr. Miller shared his ideas regarding possible new wording of the Posthumous Degree Policy for master's and doctoral students. Dr. Miller suggested the following for item 4.02 of the policy:

*If the program requires a Master's thesis and he/she had conducted a formal defense of his/her thesis proposal; or if the deceased student was in a non-thesis program and had successfully passed his/her Comprehensive Exam; or if the deceased student was in a program requiring a Master's performance and he/she had presented that, an appropriate diploma in the name of that student will be presented or sent by the appropriate academic dean to the family or next of kin of the deceased student.*

Dr. Miller will draft a posthumous policy with new wording for the approval of the Graduate Council.

**III. Recruiting Efforts**

This item will be addressed at the next Graduate Council meeting.

**IV. Cost Benefit Analysis of Graduate Programs**

The issue was raised as to whether or not it is advisable and/or viable to develop a template for investigating the true cost of creating and maintaining graduate programs. The University has a number of master's-level programs with very small enrollments. Should there be a University procedure for investigating the viability of small programs? How can program quality be incorporated into the process? What is the cost of creating and maintaining doctoral programs? These issues will be further addressed at a later meeting.

**V. Miscellaneous**

Dr. Muehsam electronically presented a draft version of an on-line graduate application. The Council discussed the different areas of the proposed application.

The Council discussed a procedural issue with respect to the admission process. It was suggested that if a student applying for a specific semester has an incomplete file at the beginning semester and is subsequently denied when the file is completed during the next semester, the student be listed as denied for that subsequent semester. This issue will be considered at the next meeting.