

Minutes
Winthrop University Graduate Faculty Assembly
February 16, 2001

- I. Call to order from Prof. Jo Koster Tarvers.
- II. Approval of Minutes from the October 20, 2000 meeting.
- III. Report from the Acting Associate Vice President for Graduate Studies—A. David Franklin

Acting Associate Vice President Franklin reported that the preliminary figures indicated a graduate enrollment this semester of 718 students, and 376 FTE, and should end up near last spring's figures of 947/422. Fall figures were 1465 students, 602 FTE.

In comparing how graduate assistantships at Winthrop compare with other peer institutions, seventeen peer institutions were surveyed. Most compensate in-state graduate assistantships more than Winthrop, based on spendable income after tuition and fees. Differences were higher in the sciences, while in the humanities they were more comparable to Winthrop.

A recommendation has been forwarded from the Graduate Directors to the Vice President for Academic Affairs to raise the stipend from \$3,000 to \$3,500 per year (for a total additional expenditure of \$50,000); to increase graduate scholarship funds from the foundation from \$25,000 to \$100,000; and to increase GIS scholarship funds in order to attract additional qualified minority students. Given the present budget situation, Dr. Franklin did not know what outcome to expect from these recommendations.

An additional recommendation was to be made to the Graduate Council to allow colleges to award scholarships to part-time students.

Laurie Carpenter, the new Coordinator of Graduate Recruitment and Marketing, has been getting her bearings and coming up to speed in the job. She has attended a number of graduate fairs in the region; become active in organizations and conferences of recruiting and admissions officers; begun evaluating our media advertising and updating our published materials as well as updating and maintaining the graduate website. She is meeting with all deans and graduate directors to determine their needs, which will be prioritized according to our budget capabilities.

Dr. Tarvers thanked Dr. Franklin for pursuing the question of graduate stipends.

- V. Remarks by Dr. Melford Wilson, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Dr. Wilson had nothing to add to his statements at Faculty Conference.

- V. Remarks from the Chair of the Graduate Council, Alan Huston.

Alan Huston was not in town, but left word that the Graduate Council would meet the following Friday, and the graduate assistantships would be on the agenda.

- VI. There was no old business.

VII. In new business, Dr. Tarvers asked whether an alternative meeting time, other than immediately after Faculty Council, for Graduate Faculty Council should be considered, given the length of Faculty Council meetings. No resolution was formulated, and most remarks indicated that the present structure was the best possible.

Dr. Tarvers also asked all chairs to submit information for the meetings in a timely manner, considering that agendas must be sent out a week in advance.

- VIII. There were no announcements.

- IX. A motion to adjourn was approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Dave Pretty, Secretary.