

# Faculty Senate

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## Graduate Council

Annual Report 1998-99

### Memorandum

July 2, 1999

TO: Ken Williamson, President  
Faculty Senate

FROM: Bruce Rettig, Chair  
Graduate Council

SUBJECT: 1998-99 Annual Report - Graduate Council

#### Membership on the Graduate

Council in 1998-1999 included eleven voting members (Bruce Rettig '00, Chair, Agricultural Sciences; Jim McAlexander '01 Business; Chris Bell '99 Engineering; Kermit Cromack '99 Forestry; Becky Donatelle '99 Health & Human Performance; Jeanette Brandt '01 Home Economics & Education; Steve Esbensen '01 Oceanic & Atmospheric Sciences; Mark Christensen '00 Pharmacy; Bruce McCune '99 Science ; Sharon Tornquist '01 Veterinary Medicine; Candace Pierson-Charlton '99 Student Member) and three non-voting members (Graduate School Dean Thomas Maresh, Associate Dean Jack Higginbotham, and Graduate Admissions Committee Chair Robby Robson). Mary Prucha, Coordinator of Graduate Student Services, and Katie Peterson, secretary to the Dean attended all meetings, providing able assistance and advice to the Graduate Council. Nancy Wolford served as student member during Fall term.

The Council reviewed and approved the Category I proposal for a Master of Software Engineering. A subcommittee of the Council (Mark Christensen, chair, Kermit Cromack, and Neil Davison) worked with Associate Dean Higginbotham to review and approve Category II proposals. That group also worked with Bob Burton, chair of the Curriculum Council, to develop procedures that would move new course proposals through the review process quickly and efficiently while examining proposals to insure that graduate courses provide a meaningful graduate experience for Oregon State University students.

The Graduate Council conducted three program reviews: Bioresource Engineering, Nutrition and Food Management, and Scientific and Technical Communication. Reports on the first two reviews have been approved by the Council and are available for review at the Graduate School. The review of the Scientific and Technical

Communication program will be discussed early in the 1999-2000 academic year.

The Council reviewed and affirmed the current policy that Oregon State University will not award a student a second Ph.D. Exceptions under special conditions will be made by the Dean of the Graduate School.

The Council reviewed a proposal from the Graduate Admissions Committee (GAC) to shift three types of cases from decision making by the GAC to the department to which a student applies: Applicants with narrative transcripts, applicants who have successfully completed a postgraduate degree, and applicants for degree programs who are currently working under the 24 hour rule (described in the Graduate Catalog). Although the Council supported the reasoning, final action including wording changes to the Graduate Catalog was deferred until an Interim Dean of the Graduate School is appointed.

Subcommittees of the Council worked with Mary Prucha to identify recipients of scholarships and fellowships administered by the Graduate School. These subcommittees report that reviewing the records of these outstanding students is among the most interesting and pleasant tasks a faculty member can carry out.

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