

**ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
GRADUATE COUNCIL  
FOR  
ACADEMIC YEAR 2004-2005**

**Presented at the  
644<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate  
October 20, 2005**

**COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP**

<b>Maurianne Adams</b>	<b>Ernest May</b>
<b>Pankaj Bansal</b>	<b>Pilar Mendoza</b>
<b>Tobias Baskin</b>	<b>Joya Misra</b>
<b>Julie Beyer</b>	<b>Anne C. Moore</b>
<b>Sara Boy</b>	<b>John Mullin</b>
<b>Anthony Butterfield, Chair</b>	<b>Philip Nasca</b>
<b>James Craig</b>	<b>Lorna Peterson</b>
<b>Harshal A. Deshmukh</b>	<b>Carol Picard</b>
<b>Tom Heydt-Benjamin</b>	<b>Terry Porter</b>
<b>Richard Goldsby</b>	<b>Idalia Rodriguez</b>
<b>Rama Janaswamy</b>	<b>Margherita Russotto</b>
<b>M. Christine King</b>	<b>Linda Shea</b>
<b>Arthur Kinney</b>	<b>Uri Strauss</b>
<b>Kevin Klement</b>	<b>Nate Therien</b>
<b>Paul Kostecki</b>	<b>Martin Wobst</b>
	<b>Juan Zamora</b>

**Graduate Council Summary Report  
2004-2005**

The Graduate Council met eight times during the 2004-05 academic year. In addition to its normal business of reviewing and approving fellowships, travel grants, and new courses, the Council focused on new programs and related courses, the international student fee, overhaul of the travel grant program, and other matters. A summary of this and other Council business follows.

After an internal search, the Council noted, with pleasure, the permanent appointment of John Mullin as Graduate Dean.

**Special Guests**

Special guests to the Council this year included Frank Hugus, Interim Director of the International Programs Office, Patrick Sullivan, Associate Graduate Registrar, and Paul Kostecki, Vice Provost for Research.

**Programs Approved**

Several new programs and initiatives were approved by the Council during the year.

Dual Master's Degree

In October, the Council heard and approved a proposal for the Faculty Senate, as presented by Jim Walker and the Academic Standards and Curriculum Committee, for keeping the Dual Degree option open. It includes provisions for courses, theses (if any), and saving of no more than approximately 20% of the degree credit requirements of the combined programs.

Doctorate in Audiology

In December, the Council approved a proposed doctorate in Audiology, necessitated largely by professional requirement changes beginning in 2007. The doctorate will eclipse the current M.A. program. There are no new resources required.

Dual Degree Option for MBA/MS in Hospitality and Tourism Management and MBA/MS in Sport Management

In March, the Council approved these two dual degree options. Both feature a 20-22% reduction in courses while maintaining the core courses. There are 72 credits required in each program.

Revision of MSN

In April, a new concentration (Clinical Nursing Leadership) was approved for the Master of Science in Nursing program.

Revision of MPPA

In May, a significant revision of the Masters Program in Public Policy and Administration was approved. It revamps the curriculum and better prepares students for career specialization.

### **New Courses**

Several new courses were recommended for approval by the Academic Standards and Curriculum Subcommittee and unanimously approved by the Council during the year. By departments, the courses are as follows:

BMATWT 530 and 540  
CMPSCI 686  
COMM-DIS 647  
EDUC 722, 730, 732, 738, and 837  
ENVIRSCI 555  
EXERSCI 540

### **Fee for International Students**

In September, Dean Mullin reported that the application fee for the Graduate School for international students had been increased from \$50 to \$65, while remaining at \$40 for US students and not increasing for international undergraduate students. There was a major shortfall in the International Programs Office (IPO) budget of \$250-300K, and the IPO is stretched extremely thin—since 2002, it has lost 1/3 of its staff. In November, Director Hugus gave an update to the Council, and several options for increasing revenue in equitable ways were discussed. Dean Mullin noted that, while it is too early to tell whether the number of applications is down this year, there has not yet been any discernable decline in the quality of applicants admitted to UMass programs. He is tracking this very closely.

### **Travel Committee**

This year, the Travel Committee implemented a new system on an experimental basis. There were two application periods, with deadlines of 11/17/04 and 4/27/05. Each Graduate Program Director (GPD) is now empowered to screen the applications they receive and forward up to 6 to the Committee during the year. Awards were made to the student rather than the project, and prioritized for the presentation's merit, the event's prestige, and the student's need. The program seemed to work well; it will continue with a report to be issued early in the 05-06 academic year.

### **Ethics Committee**

The April 15 Ethics Workshop was attended by about 80 people. There was a presentation co-sponsored with Research Affairs in the morning, and reports by this year's awardees in the afternoon. The Committee had recommended that 3 proposals receive awards for next year.

### **Mentoring Committee**

The April 29 symposium was attended by approximately 35 people. The quality of projects reported on was very high. For next year, awards were made to 5 proposals, for a total of \$44,243.

### **Fellowship Committee**

The total fellowship award for the year was \$250K. Following past practice, the entire amount was allocated in February to 20 off-campus applicants in 20 departments. Only \$77K was subsequently claimed. In April, there were 63 nominations of current students from 36 programs; 21 awards were made to 21 programs, for a total of \$173K to on-campus students.

**Student Affairs**

Graduate student Council member Julia Beyer volunteered to chair this committee, and added new energy to it. Under her leadership, a successful coffeehouse was run in December, with 40-50 graduate students attending. A second coffeehouse was run in March, with 30 attendees. A major initiative of reopening the Graduate Student Lounge is planned for the coming year.

**Miscellaneous**

- Nigar Khan traveled to Pakistan, on behalf of the Graduate School, to initiate programs with universities there that could bring new graduate students to the Amherst campus.
- Plagiarism was a topic of initial study this year; GPD training and further study is planned for next year.
- Patrick Sullivan gave the Council an overview of progress on initiatives for electronic streamlining of many internal processes at UMass. These include electronic submission of doctoral dissertations, 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendors' processing credit card applications, and electronic review of applications by departments, among other projects.
- Jim Walker really, and finally, did retire. The Graduate School and Council will miss him.