

Minutes of the Graduate Council

November 6, 2001

As approved by the Graduate Council, December 4, 2001

Members present: A. Barkley, A. Bennett, L. Bergen, T. Bolton, K. Brooks, K. Carpenter, A. Cochran, M. Collinson, L. Davis, G. Eiselein, L. Glasgow, P. Gormely, G. Kluitenberg, M. Kren, E. Minton, T. Musch, B. Niehoff, G. Ramaswamy, D. Sachs (K. Brooks, proxy), J. Staver (L. Thurston, proxy), L. Thurston, K. Tilley, R. Trewyn, E. Vassol, D. Vruwink, M. White, D. Wright (L. Thurston, proxy), C. Wyatt

Members absent: G. Bailey, A. Brightman, J. Fliter, M. Hossain, K. Shultis, D. Troyer,

Graduate School staff present: J. Barnhart, J. Guikema, C. Shanklin

Guests: Graduate Student Council members and University Distinguished Professors

1. Opening

R.W. Trewyn extended a special welcome to the University Distinguished Professors and the members of the Graduate Student Council, who were invited to join the Graduate Council in this session focused on budgetary strategies and implications of changing tuition policies. The goal of the invitation by Council to the UDPs and GSC members was to highlight the needs of graduate education and faculty scholarship in the discussions that are underway across campus. Most discussions to date have largely considered the University's role in undergraduate instruction.

Dr. Trewyn then introduced Provost Coffman, Vice President Rawson, and Vice President Krauss. They led a presentation on 'tuition ownership', whereby the University would (1) retain the tuition collected from K-State students for use by K-State, (2) receive a block grant from the State rather than the current budgetary procedure, (3) have greater flexibility in setting tuition rates (including the potential for differential tuition rates between programs or between course levels), and (4) have greater flexibility in budgeting how these funds are spent.

A majority of the discussion focused on the level of tuition rates, and the impact to the resources of the University. The institutions in the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges (NASULGC) were used as benchmarks for tuition rate comparisons.

Discussion following the presentation raised the following points:

- Graduate student recruitment is a priority, especially in attracting highly qualified out-of-state domestic students. This is essential in all disciplines. It is critical to the University mission in research in disciplines which rely on graduate student involvement in sponsored research projects. Compensation packages for graduate

assistants should include tuition waivers, as well as stipends and health insurance assistance.

- To what extent will K-State be different from the other Regents institutions in tuition ownership policies? Discussion centered around the unique missions of the research universities within the Regents institutions, and KU is considering policies consistent with ours.
2. All other agenda items were held over for the next Graduate Council meeting on December 4.

Council was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.