

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Graduate School

Minutes of the Executive Committee
Thursday, January 13, 1966
11:30 A.M. Campus Club

Present: Professors James J. Jezeski, Armand A. Renaud, Dwain W. Warner, George Seltzer, Maynard C. Reynolds, Warren S. Loud; Drs. Leslie Zieve, R. Drew Miller; Deans Thomas W. Chamberlin, Warren E. Ibele, Millard L. Gieske; Dean Frank M. Boddy, presiding; Mrs. Shirley McDonald, secretary.

1. Instruction and Research in Urban and Regional Planning - Dean Boddy reported that Vice President W. G. Shepherd has appointed an ad hoc committee on Instruction and Research in Urban and Regional Planning. The membership includes Professors Warren Cheston, chairman, Walter Vivrett, John Borchert, Roy Francis, and Dean Francis Boddy.

On November 2, 1965, the Graduate School Executive Committee approved the recommendation for a degree, Master of Urban Planning. This recommendation will be held (and not referred to the Board of Regents at this time) pending a report and recommendation by the committee studying the larger and related issues which would include the degree program, the suggested Center for handling urban planning, and the like. The ad hoc committee is meeting once each week and expects to get a report to the Vice President's office by the end of winter quarter.

2. Irregular Examination Procedures - Dean Ibele spoke of some correspondence he received as chairman of the Physical Sciences Group Committee regarding Master's examination procedures. The problem seems to center about a lack of understanding by all members of the examining committee at the beginning of the examination, as to the procedures to be followed in conducting the examination. Dean Ibele stressed the point that the examining committee is a committee of the Graduate Faculty and its decisions should be made in concert.

Statements on examinations for both Master's degree plans were quoted from the Graduate School Bulletin. The words "at the discretion of the committee" imply for both Plan A and Plan B examinations that the committee act as a unit. It was suggested however, by Professor Reynolds that the general intent of the specified regulations be spelled out more clearly. This can be done, perhaps, through a memorandum from the dean's office, but the question will also be referred to the ad hoc committee currently studying the whole subject of the Master's degree.

3. Fellowship and Scholarship Announcement Dates - Dean Boddy summarized the recent action taken by the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) and the Association of Graduate Schools (AGS) in respect to dates set for the announcements of certain awards. A meeting of deans and department chairmen was held on December 21st to discuss the resolutions adopted by the two associations. As an outgrowth, a memorandum and letter to applicants which interprets these actions were prepared for distribution to the departments. The text of the letter is quoted here:

"We are pleased that you are interested in graduate study at Minnesota. Your application for a fellowship or traineeship award has been received in complete form and gives us the information our faculty committees will need in deciding these awards.

In Order to make the competition for such fellowships an orderly procedure free from needless pressures on students, the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS), whose 243 members include all major graduate schools in the country, adopted the following resolution:

For admissions for the year 1966-67 we recommend that there be no offers, formal or informal, by any spokesman for the institution, to incoming graduate students before March 1, 1966, in the form of university scholarships and fellowships, NDEA Title IV and Title VI fellowships, NSF traineeships, and NASA traineeships.

You will therefore not receive any such offers from a member graduate school before March 1, 1966.

In addition, a majority of members of the Association of Graduate Schools (AGS) to which Minnesota and some forty others of the larger graduate schools belong, adopted a resolution which states:

The members of the AGS resolve not to offer formally or informally, to incoming graduate students before March 21, 1966, any scholarships, fellowships or traineeships for graduate study, the offer of which is within the discretion of the university including its departments. This resolution applies to all such awards within the discretion of the university and its departments including NDEA Title IV and Title VI fellowships, and traineeships supported by NASA and NSF.

We shall therefore announce our fellowship and traineeship awards on March 21, 1966. Please note that the March 21, 1966, announcement date does not apply to NIH traineeships or to appointments as teaching assistant, teaching associate, research assistant, and other similar graduate student service awards.

We call your attention also to another agreement among members of the CGS, the "April 15 deadline," whose text is enclosed herewith. This is designed to assure you that you need not accept hastily nor without due consideration any fellowship, traineeship, or assistantship which may be offered you. You may of course wish to indicate tentative acceptance before that date, and you will clearly help both yourself and the institution you plan to join by reaching a decision as early as you can; but your right to withdraw honorably any such acceptance at any time up to April 15 is guaranteed by the institutions which have subscribed to this agreement."

It was emphasized that the announcement dates are for the year 1966-67. In another year, the two groups may agree on a common date. Dean Boddy also brought out that these dates apply to incoming graduate students and not those already enrolled and pursuing a course of study.

4. The Use of the S grade - Discussion on the S grade was prompted by a question about the interpretation of the grade as a B in computing the grade point average. In addition, it has not been clear as to the use of the grade. Dean Gieske reported that Admissions and Records have found that the S grade has been used in both 100 and 200 level courses and occasionally mixed with the traditional grades in one course. It was clear, however, that the S grade should not be interpreted as a "satisfactory" to be used in place of deserved C's or even D grades.

The Graduate School will check further into general policies on the use of this symbol and the item will be carried forward.

5. The Foreign Language Requirement - Professor Renaud, chairman of the ad hoc committee, gave a progress report. A number of meeting dates have been selected and, in fact, the committee has already met to begin discussions on the history of the foreign language requirement, rationale, current practices elsewhere and proposed changes. Various positions will be presented and explored throughout winter quarter.
6. Joint Registration between the Graduate School and the General Extension Division - Dean Gieske reported that an ad hoc committee has been appointed and has met to discuss certain aspects of joint registration. (Refer to Executive Committee minutes, December 21, 1965, item 4) The committee is scheduled to meet frequently over the next few weeks.
7. NDEA Programs Report - Mr. George Lane of the Graduate Academic Programs Bureau, Office of Education, visited the University on January 12. Dean Boddy said that a number of departmental representatives (from departments submitting proposals) had an opportunity to meet with Mr. Lane for useful and informative discussions. Dean Boddy explained

that the NDEA program has become more flexible in recent years. In the beginning, awards were made project by project and for new and expanded programs. Now the NDEA is interested in supporting programs where strength already exists. The institution is guaranteed three fourths of this year's grants for the fall of 1967 and 1968. The institutions may also apply for new programs and resubmit previous requests which have been revised. NDEA has instructed the institutions to assign two-thirds of their allotted fellowships to the social sciences and humanities since the physical and biological science areas have other major support programs. Allocations within the approved programs are made by the institution.

February 8 was set for the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley McDonald
Secretary

January 19, 1966