College of Business Administration  
Graduate Committee  

Minutes: November 26, 2007, 10:30 am, Dean’s Conference Room  

Members:  
James Beatty, David Ely, Mehdi Salehizadeh, Don Sciglimpaglia,  
Chamu Sundaramurthy, Gene Whittenburg  

Guest:  
Kathy Krentler  

Item 1  
Issues related to the New MBA  
In discussing a number of remaining issues related to the New MBA, the committee focused on two specific items. First, it reviewed an “advising sheet template” produced by David. In anticipation of the expected movement of most MSBA-bound graduate students towards choosing the MBA degree effective Fall 2008, decisions need to be made regarding “specialization” unit requirements. Such decisions must be compatible with university-mandated standards and yet satisfy the CBA departments’ varying programs expectations. Following extensive discussion and comments, and pending advice from the five departments, the GC decided to re-visit this item during its Spring 2008 meetings.  

The second item dealt with guidelines for waiving the core courses. Among the issues debated:  
• What time limits should be placed on courses used to waive the core?  
• Can an exam (e.g., a final exam for a CBA graduate course) be taken, with a successful passage accepted for waiving an “out-of-date” core course?  
• Must the class used to waive a required core course be taken at an AACSB school?  

The GC agreed that additional information and data were needed before a final decision can be made on this issue.  

Item 2  
Up-dates on MBA Programs  
David informed the committee that the JD/MBA concurrent program with Thomas Jefferson School of Law and the MBA for Executives in Life Sciences have passed the University’s Graduate Council and the Senate’s AP&P and AR&P.  

Item 3  
MSDSU/University of Malta Collaborative Degree Program  
Kathy presented to the GC a request for a three-year waiver of the requirement that the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) be taken by applicants to the proposed SDSU/University of Malta Collaborative Degree Program. The program offers students an opportunity to earn a Master of Science in Business Administration (Marketing Concentration) from SDSU and a Master of Arts in Integrated Marketing Communications from the University of Malta. The program will be delivered in its entirety in the country of Malta. Applicants are expected to be drawn primarily from the Mediterranean region. The program is slated to start its first cohort in Fall 2008. A March 2008 WASC review meeting is currently scheduled.
The proposal seeks to substitute the GMAT requirement with an extensive admission and interview process which will produce a holistic approach allowing evaluation of each applicant’s individual potential. During the waiver period the program administrators are expected to: (a) carefully analyze the success of the substitute process set in place, followed by a reevaluation of the GMAT requirement; and (b) encourage students to take the GMAT whenever geographically possible, so that a database can be built. At the end of the three-year, the Graduate Committee will be asked to approve either a reinstatement or a further waiver (temporary or permanent) of the GMAT requirement.

The committee voted unanimously to approve this request.

Adjournment: 11:55 am

Next meeting: Monday, December 10th, 10:15 am, Dean’s Conference Room

Mehdi Salehizadeh
For the College Graduate Committee