College of Business Administration
Graduate Committee

Minutes: May 5, 2008, 10:00 am, Dean’s Conference Room

Members: James Beatty, Karen Ehrhart, David Ely, Mehdi Salehizadeh, Don Sciglimpaglia, Gene Whittenburg
Guest: Kuntara Pukthuanthong-Le

Item 1 Curriculum Proposal
The Management Department has been offering a special topics (696) course entitled Family Business Management, taught by Professor Carmen Bianchi. Given the time limitation (3 years) imposed on 696, the department wishes to offer this course on a permanent basis as Mgt. 749. After reviewing both the new course proposal and the curriculum/contents for MGT. 696, the committee concluded that more information was needed prior to approval. The GC chair was instructed to ask Professor Bianchi, as well as the incoming chair of the Management Department, Professor Alex De Noble, to come before the committee during its first fall 2008 regularly-scheduled meeting in order to provide answers to the issues raised at today’s meeting.

Item 2 New Strategy Course
David informed the committee that he and Professor Chamu Sundaramurthy are working on a course proposal, BA 696, covering strategy, to be offered starting in Spring 2009. The course is expected to be integrative and be sequenced immediately after the completion/waiver of the MBA core. It will be an optional course at the outset, with the possibility of becoming a requirement in the long-run. It may be used for the purposes of assessing MBA students’ mastery and knowledge of the core. Don suggested that it would be beneficial if the course contains certain components whereby each student would be taught research skills – including designing questionnaires, professional writing capabilities, and accessing electronic data bases, company profiles, and academic research papers. David will keep the GC informed of progress on this course development.

Item 3 IDS Joint Ph.D. Proposal
The GC continued to discuss the IDS Joint Ph.D. proposal it received at its last meeting. Committee members raised additional issues related to: the expected enrollment in the program; the overall graduate enrollment in IDS and its potential influence on the sequential offering of IDS courses included in the proposed degree; and the quality of research by the faculty at Claremont. These and other concerns will be conveyed to Professor Bruce Reinig (IDS Chair). The GC will further debate this proposal with the resumption of its regular meetings next Fall.

Adjournment: 11:45 am
Next meeting: Regular meetings will resume next Fall.

Mehdi Salehizadeh
For the College Graduate Committee