CAMPUS SENATE AY99/2000
RESOLUTION 29-16

Graduate Education Policy

Whereas, the campus offers a wide range of graduate educational opportunities, and

Whereas, there is a continuing need to improve the quality and quantity of graduate educational opportunities, and

Whereas, proposals to improve graduate education have been advanced from a variety of sources including the North Central Accreditation team and the Graduate Council,

Be it Resolved that the University of Illinois Springfield shall implement the policies contained in this resolution as a part of its continuing effort to improve the quality of the graduate education experience on this campus.

I. Graduate Education

A. The campus shall continue to develop and enhance graduate education as an important aspect of its mission. The campus shall undertake appropriate actions to improve the quality of graduate education and to develop and support faculty, students and staff who are engaged in graduate education.

B. Faculty and staff are engaged in graduate education if they teach graduate courses; participate in graduate thesis committees or other graduate closure exercises; advise graduate students; or develop or supervise research, public service activities, or internships in which graduate students participate.

C. Faculty engaged in graduate education must have an appropriate terminal degree or the equivalent; must be full-time tenure track or tenured faculty; must have a current record of scholarship consistent with standards set by their colleges; and, for continuing eligibility, must have demonstrated a commitment to fulfilling responsibilities of graduate education.
II. Office of Graduate Studies

A. The Campus Senate recommends that the administration of University of Illinois Springfield develop an administrative unit entitled the Office of Graduate Studies or some similar title in the Office of Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs. It is further recommended that the office be staffed with an individual who has experience in the development and delivery of graduated education, and that this assignment be the full time responsibility of this individual. This office should be created as soon as possible but at least by November 2000.

B. The individual employed as the head of the Office of Graduate Studies in collaboration with the Graduate Council shall develop an expanded position description which shall, at a minimum, include the following:

1. Advocating the quality of graduate education on the campus;

2. Promoting educational opportunities for faculty and staff engaged in graduate education;

3. Developing research, internship, and public service activities;

4. Developing activities and programs that enrich the educational experience of graduate students;

5. Developing graduate assistantships and other forms of financial assistance for graduate students and providing assistance to students applying for admission to graduate programs;

6. Assisting the Graduate Council and the Colleges in the development of educational policy for graduate education;

7. Developing programs and activities that encourage the development of diversity within the graduate curriculum, student body and the recruitment and retention of minority students.

C. The position description shall be submitted to the Graduate council for review by March 1, 2001.

III. Graduate Council

A. The graduate council shall continue to be the primary campus wide governance organization monitoring and developing policies for graduate education, and the
administration shall consider a method of compensating the chair of the Graduate Council.

B. The Graduate Council shall submit to the Campus Senate, for its review, any proposed bylaw changes or other changes in educational policy necessary to implement this resolution.

C. Such bylaw or other policy changes shall include the following:

1. The Graduate Council shall include at least four representatives who are from programs that offer graduate degrees. The remaining members must be faculty who are engaged in graduate education;

2. The head of the Office of Graduate Studies shall serve on the Graduate Council as an ex-officio member;

3. A method of consulting with college executive committees and other committees a college may establish to create graduate education policy;

4. A method of monitoring and advising the Campus Senate concerning the graduate educational policies developed by the colleges. However, the Graduate Council shall not be directly involved in any appeal or hearing concerning any individuals eligibility to engage in graduate education.

D. The Graduate Council shall report to the Campus Senate by March 30, 2001 its efforts to implement this policy.

IV. Colleges

A. Each college shall develop in consultation with the Graduate Council and the head of the Office of Graduate Studies policies for graduate education within the College.

B. Policies developed by a College shall be consistent with the general educational policies established by the Graduate Council and the Campus Senate, the personnel policies of the campus and the Statutes, General Rules and policies of the University of Illinois.

C. Such policies shall include:

1. Criteria and standards for determining initial and continuing eligibility to be engaged in graduate education. Be it noted all faculty who are engaged in graduate education during the 1999-2000 academic year or earlier shall be considered initially eligible.
2. A process for establishing initial and continuing eligibility to engage in graduate education. Such process shall include a method for appeal of a decision that a faculty is ineligible to engage in graduate education.

3. A method for allowing individuals who have not been identified and approved as faculty engaged in graduate education to teach graduate courses and to serve on graduate thesis and closure committees. This provision will make individuals who have important expertise available for graduate students.

4. A method for review of the policies developed and any modifications by the Graduate Council and the Campus Senate.

D. The Colleges shall have adopted policies for graduate education necessary to implement this Resolution by December 22, 2000.