University Graduate Council
Engineering Annual Report 2008-2009

For the 2008-2009 Academic Year, the University Graduate Council acted on the following agenda items involving College of Engineering Issues. The complete minutes of the UGC are published at http://grad.msu.edu/staff/ugc.htm

September 15, 2008: No College of Engineering Program Changes

Discussion: Welcome Week problems and Academic Calendar changes.
MOTION: for academic reasons, the current proposal is not acceptable. (1) in favor, (esp. labs teaching) were accrediting body req. consulted for # hours needed Grad programs often have 1 day 3 hr classes. (Approved)
MOTION: Welcome Week has been dangerous, so something should be done: unanimous

October 27, 2008: No College of Engineering Program Changes

Discussion: UCAP is recommending that the record-keeping of instances of academic dishonesty be at the College level for the students. UCAP will look at the UGC recommendations from 2004.

November 17, 2008: No College of Engineering Program Changes

Discussion:
MOTION: On behalf of University Graduate Council (Passed)

Background:
Many graduate Research Assistants (RAs) are compensated differently during the summer months while participating in research activities. Many graduate students are being paid as hourly labor to avoid having to register for research credits during the summer. These students do not need to be registered because they satisfy MSU requirements for classification as full-time students without summer enrollment and do not need research credits to satisfy research credit requirements of their degree program. Because RA appointments include 5 credits of research charged to their research grant, paying these students hourly also saves grants resources.
An analysis by Paul Hunt conducted for May/June 2008 indicates approximately, twice as many students were on the hourly pay list for May/June than for January 2008 indicating grant funded hourly pay for graduate student summer research is common.

Proposal: Summer Research Assistant Employment Code

A Research Assistant employment code will be made available for summer semester without the need to register for summer credits and without the associated registration fee and tuition charges. This code will be available at all RA Levels and will result in no change in student stipend. Graduate students will be eligible only if they are enrolled for the Fall and Spring semesters prior to the Summer session in which they seek employment, OR in the Spring semester before and the Fall semester following the Summer session in which they seek employment.

January 26, 2009: No College of Engineering Program Changes

Discussion: No Motions
February 23, 2009:
Agenda Items:
9. *Request to establish a linked Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree in Computer Science in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering. (attached) APPROVED

10. Request to establish a linked Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. (attached)

11. *Request to establish a Linked Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. (attached) APPROVED

12. *Request to establish a Linked Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree in Environmental Engineering in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. (attached) APPROVED

13. *Request to establish a Linked Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. (attached) APPROVED

Discussion: No Motions

March 23, 2009: No College of Engineering Program Changes

Discussion:

Motion from Graduate Instruction, Employment, Mentoring Subcommittee: Radcliffe discussed the recommended increases (3%) for RA and TE stipends. Motion to add UGC recommendation was approved.

April 20 and May 11: Minutes are pending approval in September 2009

Respectfully Submitted: 6-26-09

Clark Radcliffe
Clark Radcliffe, Engineering Representative
University Graduate Council