Minutes of Graduate Committee Meeting of March 28 and continued on March 30.

Present: Rick, Cindy, Hari, Kathy, Sara and Bobbie.

1. Discussion of draft assessment form for BA 502
   a) The wording in question 4 was discussed. The committee noted the need to incorporate Dr. Boberg’s concerns.
   b) Another issue that was discussed is whether it is important for students to know the parameters on which they will be assessed. There were mixed views. Some felt that telling them the questions upfront and then assessing them on the same dimensions sounds like ‘rigging’ the assessment. Others felt that objectivity may be sacrificed if students know the questions. There was also the view that some of these important aspects must be highlighted to all the students, right from the time they are admitted to the program. Still others felt that learning objectives in various courses can be couched in a manner that includes the items that will be assessed in BA 502.
   c) Dr. Weisinger’s suggestion to eliminate the neutral response was accepted. Her suggestion to clarify the expression ‘favorably impressed’ in question 5 was accepted.
   d) Motion to use the form as amended this spring was accepted.

2. It was decided that the MBA program objectives will be looked at later.

3. The committee reviewed the questions to be posed before the Dean.

4. The continued offering of the combined Finance/Economics course in White Sands was brought up. The finance department does not have the resources to offer such a course in the fall 2006. This becomes a problem if a new cohort begins in the fall. The exact nature of the official commitment to WSMR was not clear to anyone in the committee. If we have a commitment to support a cohort in semester, the inability to offer BA 500 in the Fall will pose a problem. Kathy and Bobbie said they will report back to committee with more information.

The meeting was adjourned and continued on March 30.

5. Dr. Adkisson brought up the fact that we have a floating MBA program – there is no universal buy-in from the faculty. There is also lingering concern among faculty on the quality of the program. Also, there is a concern that there are limited Graduate Committee members that actually teach in the MBA faculty. There might be some value in identifying an MBA faculty to build a sense of ownership.

6. The MBA subcommittee is going to continue to put together MBA objectives for the entire program.

7. Dr. Weisinger expressed that at the end of the semester we have to finalize how we want the MBA goals to be expressed. For each goal we need to find one thing already going on in the program to latch on to. Each objective has to have a point where everything is
clearly measured. Also, we must plan to collect the data on each objective and have a method of measuring and calculating the results.

8. Dr. Adkisson tasked Dr. Weisinger, as the chair of the subcommittee, to have all tasks listed above (3) by the end of the semester.

9. Dr. Adkisson indicated that we need to discuss if we want to finalize the proposed classes: Econ/Fin, Acct251/Acct252, Calculus, and Statistics for next semester.

10. Dr. Seipel passed out a faculty questionnaire and asked if there needed to be any additions or changes. There were some open ended questions, such as 1) What would be lost if the number of students was increased? 2) What would you have to give up/alter if the class was online? The questions were approved for submission to faculty.

The meeting was adjourned.