Graduate Committee report for spring semester 2006.
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The committee consists of H. Sankaran, S. Pirayesh, R. Adkisson, K. Brook, M. Jasso, B. Green, C. Seipel, and J. Weisinger.

Thanks to Chris Erickson who filled in for Rick Adkisson in his absence during the fall, 2006 semester.

Rick Adkisson was elected chair for the semester. The committee met formally four times during the semester and addressed issues informally by e-mail several times over the course of the semester.

The committee approved course change forms for several graduate courses.

Since Fin 502 was dropped from the MBA curriculum each student must take a 500 level elective. Department heads are to notify the MBA director of qualifying electives each semester and the MBA Director will advise students on electives based on the assembled list of classes provided from departments.

The committee considered a proposal from B. Green to develop four 500 level, online courses that would serve to fulfill the MBA prerequisites. The committee provided some guidance for continued development of the proposal but did not approve the proposal for implementation. The guidance given was:

- That the courses have content equivalent to the existing prerequisites
- That there be no discrimination among different categories of MBA students (same opportunity for on-campus, off-site, etc…)
- That there be quality control to assure learning equivalent to face-to-face courses.
- That none of the proposed courses be counted as electives in the MBA program.

The committee directed the MBA director to assure that the two capstone courses in the MBA program, Mgt 590 and BA502 are indeed treated as capstone courses and that only MBA students at the end of their programs be allowed to enroll.

A proposal was approved by the committee and the faculty to allow students who have taken an undergraduate Business Law or Legal Environment of Business course to take any 500 level BLAW class as a substitute for BLAW 502, the current MBA requirement.

The committee approved a one-time offering of ACCT 503 via interactive TV

The committee approved a one-time offering of BCIS 502 and ECON 503 as online courses to be offered in summer 2006 by B. Green and C. Erickson.
A subcommittee led by J. Weisinger drafted a list of MBA program objectives. They are:

1. Demonstrate well-developed interpersonal skills by successfully working in teams.
2. Demonstrate well-developed critical thinking skills by completing a major business project requiring problem solving, decision making, and other analytical skills.
3. Demonstrate well-developed oral and written communication skills by the producing high quality written work and making high quality oral presentations of said work.
4. Demonstrate well-developed leadership skills.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of cross-cultural/global situations, and negotiations.

Based on the stated objectives, the committee developed an assessment instrument to be administered in BA502. Feedback was provided by all faculty participants observing the BA502 presentations. The specific data is available. The following statements summarize the results based on 11 presentations.

- Approximately ½ of the evaluations indicated very high quality results
- The approximately ½ of the presentations that were not clearly rated as very high quality were still rated high enough to indicate good quality work.
- None of the evaluations indicated a poor quality presentation.
- Evaluators tended to be consistent in their evaluation of a particular presentation.

Both the list of objectives and the evaluation method are subject to future revisions.

The committee met with Dean Carruthers to discuss his vision for the MBA program. His indication to the committee was that the program needed to grow and that we would need to be flexible in delivering the program but did not indicated that a specific method of delivery was required.

The committee met with interested faculty to discuss the MBA program. No action was taken but there was some sentiment for identifying an MBA faculty who would be more directly involved in the program.