Georgia Institute of Technology
2009-2010 Annual Report
Graduate Curriculum Committee

October 14, 2010
3-5:00 p.m.
Student Center Theater

Fall Meeting of the General Faculty, General Faculty Assembly, & Academic Senate
incl. Standing Committee Annual Reports

Members: Julie Babensee, Bridgette Barry, Robert Butera, Jonathan Clarke, Greg Corso, Bonnie Ferri, Benjamin Flowers, David Goldsman, Alex Gray, Leo Mark, Janet Murray, John Peponis, David Rosen, Tom Sanders, Emilson Silva, Vinod Singhal, Marilyn Smith, Francesca Storici, Reta Pikowsky, Ray Vito, Rich Moore, Nate Bennett

Meetings: The GCC held 9 meetings during the 2009-2010 academic year plus additional meetings on focused topics such as program reviews. The work of the committee falls into three main categories which are curricular items, program reviews, and student petitions. The committee also handles administrative and procedural questions related to the graduate curriculum as needed. Activities in each of these areas are outlined below.

Dr. Julie Babensee served as Chair of the Committee. Dr. Marilyn Smith served as Vice Chair of the Committee.

Curriculum Items

Over the 2009-2010 academic year, the GCC approved several modifications and additions to Georgia Tech’s degrees, new courses, blanket exceptions to limits on pass/fail hours to transition programs into compliance with the limitations, guidelines for special topics courses, guidelines for graduate certificates, and clearer language in the Catalog section on Requirements for Award of the Master’s Degree. This year, the Committee also implemented a process of pre-proposals to assist academic units in preparation of formal proposals for new programs.

New courses were approved in:

1. COA
2. MUSI
3. MGT
4. INTA
5. EAS
6. HTS
7. BIOL
8. PUBP
9. BC
10. ARCH
11. ID
12. PSYCH
13. ISyE
14. MATH
15. IL
16. APPH

New Degrees or Concentrations
1. Doctor of Philosophy with a major in Music Technology
2. Master of Science in Supply Chain Engineering
3. MS in Urban Design

New Joint or Dual Degree Programs
1. Georgia Institute of Technology-Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) Dual Degree Program (MSECE)
2. Joint Doctor of Philosophy with a major in Electrical and Computer Engineering Politecnico di Torino (Italy)
3. Joint Doctor of Philosophy with a major in Electrical and Computer Engineering with the Politecnico di Milano (Italy)

Changes were approved that affected the following degree programs:
1. Master of Science in Nuclear Engineering (GT-Clark Atlanta University accelerated program)
2. Master of Science in Medical Physics (GT-Clark Atlanta University accelerated program)
3. MS in International Affairs
4. MS in History and Sociology of Technology and Science
5. Dual – Master of City and Regional Planning and Master of Architecture
6. Dual – Master of City and Regional Planning/Master of Science with a Major in Civil Engineering (Transportation Systems Engineering)
7. MS in International Logistics
8. MS in Statistics
9. MS in Quantitative and Computational Finance

Changes were approved that affected the following certificate programs:
1. Modeling and Computer Simulation (MaCS)

Program Reviews

Program Reviews were accepted in the following areas (finalized at the September 2, 2010 meeting):
1. Literature, Communication, and Culture
2. Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
3. Chemistry & Biochemistry
4. Materials Science and Engineering  
5. Paper Science and Engineering  
6. Biology  
7. Electrical and Computer Engineering

Student Petitions and Appeals

The Graduate Committee acted on 404 student petitions. Of these, 94 were handled administratively in areas where the Committee had delegated responsibility to the subcommittee. There was 1 written appeal that was acted on in 2009-2010. In academic year 2008-2009, the Committee acted on 96 petitions.

The increase in the number of petitions over the 2008-2009 is explained by the number of blanket petitions that were acted on to address programs in which students had exceeded the number of allowable pass/fail hours. This policy, which had not been consistently applied in the past, is now being monitored. It is expected that all proper adjustments and blanket petitions have been approved and that the number of petitions will once again return to a normal level for the committee.

Submitted by:

Julie Babensee, Biomedical Engineering  
Chair, GCC, 2009-2010