

**Graduate Council Meeting**  
**March 31, 2009**  
**Minutes**

Present: Frances Cai, Rochelle Kaplan, Susan Sabatino, Liana Fornarotto, Dorothy Feola  
Guests: Julie Bliss  
Absent: Ellen Frye, Trudi VanDyke

1. The minutes of the February 19, 2009 meeting were approved.
2. A draft for a recommendation for establishing two rather than one Senate Graduate Council was shared and will be discussed at our next meeting.
3. Julie Bliss and Kem Louie presented the two proposals for program changes, one for a new certificate program, and one proposal for a new doctoral program for the Nursing Department.
  - a) **Revision to Nursing Education Track for MSN Program** – This revision entails some course changes to the existing track in order to meet requirements for National League of Nursing Certification. The proposal was approved and will be recommended to the full Senate for review.
  - b) **Revision to the MSN program to add a new track for a Nurse Faculty Scholars Program.** This is a new track with 49 credits and is part of collaborative effort with other colleges. The program is substantially funded by an external grant. The proposal was approved and will be recommended to the full Senate for review.
  - c) **Proposal for Post-Master's Nursing Education Certificate** – This program will include 4 courses from the Nurse Educator specialization to enable otherwise qualified candidates to prepare for the Certificate Exam as Nurse Educators offered by the National League of Nursing.
  - d) **Proposal for a Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP)** – This program was developed to meet changing requirements for certification as a Nurse Practitioner that will become effective in 2015. At that time the National League of Nursing will no longer recognize master's degrees as sufficient for certification as Nurse Practitioners. The proposed DNP program provides a post-masters program that will replace the current MSN program for Nurse Practitioners. A plan for eventual inclusion of a BNS to doctorate program was discussed. It was noted that additional costs for faculty, clinical, and library resources have been taken into account and that the Provost has guaranteed support of this program. The Council recommended that the BNS route be included along with the post-MSN route from the beginning. The program proposal will be adjusted to reflect this change and then resubmitted to the Council online for final approval. After that it will be recommended to the full Senate for review.
5. The next meeting of the Graduate Council will take place on Thursday, April 16, Tuesday, April 21, or Thursday, April 23 at 12:30 p.m.

Submitted by,  
Rochelle Goldberg Kaplan