

GRADUATE ACADEMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2010-2011 ANNUAL REPORT

The Graduate Academic Advisory Committee (GAAC) was extremely busy during the 2010-2011 academic year. Fourteen meetings were held between September of 2010 and May of 2011. These meetings were used to review new proposals for graduate courses and graduate programs. In addition, GAAC considered many policy issues related to graduate programs at UAF.

Voting members of GAAC were: Ken Abramowicz (Chair), Donie Bret-Harte, Lara Dehn, Regine Hock, Orion Lawler, Anupma Prakash, Sue Renes, Jen Schmidt, Amber Flora Thomas, and Xiong Zhang. Administrative representatives participating in the GAAC meetings on a regular basis were: Laura Bender (Graduate School), Larry Duffy (Graduate School), Libby Eddy (Office of Admissions), Jayne Harvie (Governance Office), and Karen Jensen (Rasmuson Library),

In response to concerns about ambiguity related to minimum grades needed for graduate degrees, GAAC passed a motion clarifying UAF's current grade policy stated in the UAF Catalog. The new policy clarifies that a "B" (3.0) is needed for each 400-level course and a "C" (2.0) is needed for each 600-level course (i.e., a "B-" in a 400-level course and a "C-" in a 600-level course do not count toward meeting graduate degree requirements). This motion did not revise existing policy, but merely clarified an issue to ensure that students understood the existing rules.

GAAC also passed a motion to amend the academic dismissal policy for graduate students (as stated in the UAF Catalog). This amendment combined two existing items that are defined to be "unsatisfactory performance" and added a paragr