University Graduate Council Meeting Minutes
Richards Hall, VPAA Conference Room
November 13, 2015 – 12:00 p.m.

Council Members in Attendance

Dr. Andrews Jauregui (TCOB) – Chair
Dr. Ellen Roberts (AA)
Dr. John Ellisor (COLS)
Dr. Scott Harris (COA)
Dr. Kim Hasbach (SON) for Dr. Cheryl Smith
Dr. Margie Yates (COEHP)

Dr. Kevin Burgess (COLS)
Dr. Dorinda Dowis (MPA) for Dr. Fred Gordon
Dr. Shamim Khan (TCOB) for Dr. Radhouane Chouchane
Ms. Kristin Williams (EM) – Ex Officio

Topics

Item 1: Welcome, Lunch and Approval of October Minutes.

Dr. Jauregui called the meeting to order and the council approved the October meeting minutes with changes and corrections.

Item 2: Report from the Associate Provost for Graduate Education.

Graduate Enrollment Dr. Roberts issued printouts to council members showing numbers of enrollments in the university's graduate programs. She asked the council members to offer corrections to the printout if necessary.

Domin Graduate Research Conference. Dr. Roberts gave a report on the conference's success and thanked council members for their participation in the event. She also asked for suggestions for improving the conference, and members offered a few ideas such as inclusion of distance presentations via Skype, early research presentations, three-minute thesis presentations, etc. Dr. Yates and Dr. Hasbach offered to help collect and report on such suggestions.

Item 3: Old Business.

Approval of Graduate Faculty The council approved two professors for provisional graduate faculty; four professors for associate graduate faculty status; and two professors for full graduate faculty membership.

Update on Graduation GPA. The council previously decided to use the overall university GPA for both program standing and graduation for our graduate students. In addition, the council decided that in figuring the GPA for a student, that student could only repeat two courses and then only one time each. However, on reviewing our decision, the Deans Council decided that we should make an exception to the overall rule. For students transferring to a new graduate program, the deans advised, we should have a review of that student's transcript to decide if the student's GPA could be reset so that poor grades from the previous program did not detract unduly from a body of grades earned in the new program. However, poor grades from a previous program would not be absolved as a matter of policy, but only as...
exceptions after individual case-by-case review by a grade appeals council at the college level.

With the Deans Council suggestions in mind, Dr. Roberts proposed a GPA policy exception rule to the grad council for approval. This exception rule reads as follows: “An exception to our policy for the overall GPA will be made for one program change only to reset the GPA to mean that the program GPA will supplant the overall GPA. The appeals committee and the college dean will need to approve.

The grad council then passed the proposed exception rule.

**Item 4: New Business.**

**Graduate Discovery Day, November 14** Ms. Williams passed out copies of the agenda for the Discovery Day and gave some specific instructions for grad council members planning to attend and explain their programs to potential students.

**International Graduate Strategy and Opportunity.** Ms. Williams explained that Enrollment Management is now working with consultants to develop strategies for selling our graduate programs to foreign students. She will be attending a conference in December for this purpose but she stressed that our departments will need to meet with her first to see how to advertise their grad programs.

**MPA Curriculum Changes.** The council postponed discussion of this section of the agenda until a later meeting.

**Item 5: Announcements.**

Next meeting will be on December 11. Current meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.