Members in Attendance

Dr. Andres Jauregui (TCOB) - Chair  
Dr. Cheryl Smith (COEHP)  
Dr. Ellen Roberts (AA)  
Dr. John Ellisor (COLS) - Secretary  
Dr. Fred Gordon (COLS)  
Dr. Kevin Burgess (COLS)  
Dr. Greg Blalock (COEHP)  
Ms. Kristin Williams (EM)  
Dr. Margie Yates (COEHP)  
Dr. Radhouane Chouchane (TCOB)  
Dr. Scott Harris (COA)  
Ms. Brenda Ivey (Grad. School) – Guest  
Ms. Amber Dees (VPAA) - Guest

Topics

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

Dr. Jauregui called the meeting to order and the council approved the minutes for the December meeting.

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

March Meeting: Dr. Roberts called for and the council approved a change in the council’s March meeting date from March 11 to March 4.

Graduate School Student Assistant: Dr. Roberts announced that she had hired a new student assistant for the spring and summer terms. The student will develop informational flyers promoting graduate study at CSU. These flyers will be distributed to our seniors and will include such information as programs, benefits, etc. Seniors will receive the flyers as they are graduating.

Program Solvency: Dr. Roberts reported that the regents, the president and others have expressed a need for a more robust enrollment in our graduate programs to keep them solvent. Low enrollments and grade levels in those programs need to improve. Furthermore, when programs have been eliminated in other schools, some tenured faculty have lost their jobs.

Graduate Tuition Increase: Dr. Roberts also noted that there has been talk of increasing graduate tuition to fund faculty pay and possible pay increases to faculty. The problem here, however, is that it is difficult to increase enrollment if tuition rates increase. Still, a five percent increase in in-state graduate tuition rates may be possible for the fall term.

Item 3: Old Business.

Approval of Graduate Faculty: The Council approved one full graduate faculty member.
New MPA Tracks: Dr. Fred Gordon, chair of the Department of Politics, Philosophy, and Public Administration presented his revised proposal to add three new tracks and several new courses to his department's MPA program. Upon questioning, Dr. Gordon also informed the council that the implementation of the program would require the hiring of two new faculty positions and increasing two lecturer positions from part-time to full-time. The council discussed a previous proposal at our last meeting, and after a brief discussion on this date, approved the revised proposal.

Item 4: New Business.

Work Session: Council Members divided into groups to work on three projects: 1) A plan for implementing a Three Minute Thesis session for CSU's next Graduate Conference; 2) A plan for revising CSU's online graduate orientation site; 3) A plan for revising and updating the Graduate School website. Council members worked on these plans for a period of time and then reported on their ideas. Dr. Roberts suggested that the work continue at the next council meeting and the members agreed.

Item 5: Announcements.

Fort Benning Graduate Fair:
February 10, 1-5 p.m.

Graduate Discovery Day:
February 20, 9 a.m.

Next Graduate Council Meeting: February 12.

Adjournment: 1:45 p.m.