

**Present:** Elizabeth Alderton, Eric Brunsell, Jamie Ceman, Denise Clark, Susan Cramer, John Cross, Steve Dunn, David Fuller, Karen Gibson, Kathy Hagens, Randy Harris, Joan Heller, Marci Hoffman, Phan Hong, Toni House, Lixin Jiang, Karen King, Shelly Lancaster, Karen Landay, Karl Nollenberger, Christine Roth, Alan Saginak, Bob Stelzer, Jen Szydluk, Judy Westphal, Greg Wypiszynski

**Excused:** Mike Ford, Fredi Giesler, Bill Wresch, Deb Matulle, Lori Worm

**Guests:** Pat Wilkinson

The meeting was called to order at 1:21 p.m. by Phan Hong.

- A. LibQUAL Survey: Pat Wilkinson shared the library's LibQUAL survey and how it applies to graduate students. The data mimic results of the Graduate Student Survey. Graduate students want more quiet and group work areas with technology. Hours tend to be an issue for graduate students who work full-time. Polk Library is the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest staffed, but has the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest open hours for peer institution libraries in the Midwest. Graduate students are in need of information literacy instruction (writing, citations, formatting styles), and Polk staff are willing to help. Meeting spaces specifically for graduate students is under discussion, but university support is needed from others as well (i.e. Writing Center and IT).
- B. Ed.D. Program (New): Karen Gibson and Susan Cramer shared a 54-credit Ed.D. program that will be another system-wide collaborative, and all universities will require students to take 6 of the same credits. UW Oshkosh's Ed.D. program will focus on K-12 Superintendents. The program is planned to make the June Board of Regents meeting, which means full UW Oshkosh approval is needed by April.
- C. Data Science (MS) pre-authorization was approved by the Board of Regents, and will make its way through campus approvals in the near future.
- D. The minutes of the Graduate Council meeting of December 4, 2014 were approved as written (19-0-1). Motion to approve/Second: Elizabeth Alderton/Eric Brunsell.
- E. The Curriculum Approval Committee reviewed and recommended approval for the following actions:
  - 1. Form C: MS-Educational Leadership to MS-Educational Leadership & Policy (name change)
  - 2. Form C: Biology GRE Admissions Requirement
  - 3. Form C: Professional Counseling Replace Elective with 735Motion to approval all three actions/Second: Jen Szydluk/Christine Roth. All in favor (20-0-0).
- F. The Friends of Graduate Education Celebration will be May 28, 4:30-6:00pm. Susan Cramer has called for nominations, which are due April 1.

After several attempts to separate graduate awards from the Honors & Awards Ceremony (to be honored at the Friends of Grad Ed Celebration, instead), the Honors & Awards Committee has expressed extreme difficulty identifying which awards are graduate and which are undergraduate (or both). Dean Cramer asked if the Council would like her to continue to pursue separating graduate honors from the Honors & Awards Ceremony. Discussion ensued. The Council agreed that the level of formality at the Honors & Awards Ceremony is appropriate in celebrating student achievement and identifying donors. The Friends Celebration is informal, and doesn't showcase these achievements to the same degree. Also, the audience at the Honors & Awards ceremony is significant to both students and donors. Instead, the Council requested Dean Cramer continue with the following:

1. Ask the Honors & Awards Committee to showcase graduate students more, perhaps by separating all graduate students into their own section rather than seating them with their academic college.
  2. Invite all graduate students honored at the Honors & Awards Ceremony to the Friends of Graduate Education Celebration.
- G. A Non-thesis Culminating Experience Award is under discussion, and Elizabeth Alderton and Karen Gibson have reviewed a previous committee's draft. The timeline would be the same as the Distinguished Master's Research Award with a September nomination deadline, and an awardee selected by October. The Council hopes to continue planning for a \$250 monetary award for the winner.
- H. The Graduate Student Association has been invited to monthly meetings with the Chancellor. During the January discussion, the Chancellor requested from the GSA to identify, "what is the collective vision from graduate students?" The Council suggested using the Graduate Student Survey data and to conduct a literature review in preparation for future focus groups. Questions the Council asked were; how are graduate students similar, how are they different, what would encourage them to give back to the university 10 years after graduation, and what are the three most important pieces of their graduate experience (can the GSA identify themes)? Their next meeting with Chancellor Leavitt is February 11.
- I. Susan Cramer met with the Chancellor, as well, and discussed that graduate education is something the university can grow to make up for lowering undergraduate enrollment. Also, she was asked to participate in the university's new Leadership Council. The Chancellor has agreed to meet the Graduate Council on February 12 to further this discussion. All Council members are encouraged to attend the Budget Town Hall meetings to advocate for graduate education.
- J. A draft of the Graduate Continuation Policy was written by Phan Hong, Judy Westphal, and Christine Roth, and shared with the Council. The purpose of the policy is to create a source of revenue used to support students who take extra time to complete a thesis, encourages timely completion, and a low enough cost not to hurt students. Each program would have the option to choose to adopt this policy, but it is not required. A fee would be applied to a student's account each semester that they did not complete their thesis requirements (a one-semester grace period would be provided), and an appeals process will be in place. Continuing discussions will include reporting outcomes, faculty responsibility to the students, compensation, and logistics.
- K. Dean Cramer reminded the Council of their meeting with Chancellor Leavitt on Thursday, February 12 at 1:20-2:50pm in Sage 2210. A review of discussion items ensued, and Council members were encouraged to review the Graduate Student Survey data.
- L. Graduate Studies Initiatives Program (GSIP) funding is still available this fiscal year, but not guaranteed for next year. Submit proposals to Dean Cramer.

Motion to adjourn at 2:51pm. The next Graduate Council meeting is on February 12, 2015 from 1:20 – 2:50pm in Sage 2210.

Marci Hoffman, Recorder

Copies to:  
Graduate Council  
Provost Lane Earns  
Deans  
OSA President  
Office of Graduate Studies Staff