1. The meeting was called to order at 3:08 P.M. Vice President for Research Suman Singha presided.

2. It was moved, seconded, and passed without dissent on a voice vote to approve as distributed the minutes of the meeting of October 21, 2009.

3. S. Singha recognized A. Grubb, who reported on recent meetings and activities of the Graduate Student Senate (GSS). Topics currently being discussed by the GSS include international student concerns, campus parking, Husky Mail, and GA concerns. He noted that Singha had met recently with the GSS and that the GSS is attempting to involve more graduate students in the organization’s activities.

4. S. Singha introduced Provost Peter Nicholls who spoke about the Report of the Graduate School Evaluation Committee. In particular, he noted that the Committee recommends retaining the Vice President for Research position while creating a second position of Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School. Nicholls asked for input from members of the Council concerning the report.

5. S. Singha introduced John Saddlemire, Vice President for Student Affairs, and Steven Kremer, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs (Residential Life), who spoke about housing for graduate students. It was noted that Saddlemire and Kremer will meet soon with the GSS and that President Hogan places a high priority on graduate student housing. They said that the Norwood Apartments complex has been renovated and that the Graduate Residences have been scheduled for asbestos removal. They noted that approximately 100 graduate students live in Hilltop with a total of about 500 graduate students living on campus (representing a relatively small percentage). There was considerable discussion concerning various safety issues along North Eagleville Road.

6. L. Aggison raised for continued discussion the matter of Graduate Certificate Programs. W. Abikoff summarized the current situation in light of recent discussions of the Executive Committee. It was moved, and seconded to withdraw the tabled motion at the 10/21/10 meeting (see item #7 of the minutes of the 10/21/10 meeting). The motion passed.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Abikoff presented the following motion:

It is moved that an ad hoc committee shall be formed from volunteer members of the Graduate Faculty Council and, if more members are needed, they will be chosen by the Dean with the advice of the members of the Executive Committee. The ad hoc committee is charged to gather data on the graduate certificate programs with specific attention to:

i) their location, function and purpose;
ii) which have been approved by the Department of Higher Education and/or the Board of Trustees and which have not been approved outside a department or program of study;
iii) are they important to include in the graduate school offerings?
iv) should there be sunrise/sunset clauses?
v) should the programs be reviewed periodically?

With regard to the above items, the committee shall make recommendations to the Graduate Faculty Council and the Executive Committee of the Graduate School.

The motion passed without dissent on a voice vote. Aggison asked that members wishing to volunteer notify him via e-mail.

7. L. Aggison informed members that the ad hoc committee reviewing the policies and procedures contained in the Graduate Catalog is continuing its work. He noted that the committee has decided to rewrite the several sections of the Catalog rather than attempting to edit the existing text.

8. Adjournment was at 4:52 P.M.

Speakers:  Peter Nicholls, Provost  
John Saddlemire, Vice President for Student Affairs  
Steven Kremer, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs (Residential Life)

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas B. Peters  
Program Director