

Date: Wednesday, September 16, 2015

Location: HBL Class of 1947 Conference Room

Subject: Graduate Faculty Council (GFC) Meeting Minutes Summary

Attendees: Kari Adamsons, Daniel Adler, Hector Aguila, Ivy Alexander, David Atkin, Janet Barnes-Farrell, Richard Bass (Moderator), David Benson, Georgios Bollas, Laura Burton, Andrew Bush, Kenneth Campellone, Zhiyi Chi, Steven Demurjian, Craig Denegar, Pamela Diggle, Kimberly Dodge, Mary Anne Doyle, Valerie Duffy, Gerald Dunne, Maria-Luz Fernandez, Jon Gajewski, Miguel Gomes, Jane Gordon, Ashley Helton, Kent Holsinger (Ex Officio), Kelly Jones (Ex Officio, Secretary), Barbara Kream (Ex Officio), Louise Lewis, Charles Mahoney, Dorothy McCoach, Anthony Patelunas, Michael Pettes, Phillip Price, Heather Read, Kathleen Segerson, Farhed Shah, William Simonsen, Zeki Simsek, David Solomon, Tammie Spaulding, David Stern, Jiong Tang, Judy Thorpe, Timothy Vadas, Epapante Vlahos, Janet Watson, Chuanrong Zhang, and Qing Zhu.

Absent: Mary Anne Amalaradjou, Richard Anyah, Carol Atkinson-Palomba, Sulin Ba, William Bailey, JC Beall, Ronald Beghetto, Samuel Best, Victoria Blodgett (Ex Officio), Judith Brown, Audrey Chapman, Ki Chon, Joanne Conover, Antonia Cordero, Morgaen Donaldson, George Elliott, Alain Frogley, Mitch Green, Mark Hamilton, Victor Hesselbrock, Bryan Huey, Guillermo Irizarry, Blair Johnson, Jeong-Ho Kim, Lawrence Klobutcher, Alexander Kovner, Yulia Kuzovkina-Eischen, Charles Lansing, Yizao Liu, Joseph LoTurco, George McManus, Thomas Miceli, Laurent Michel, Daniel Mulkey, Natalie Munro, Lirio Negroni-Rodriguez, Lew Newlin, William Ouimet, Gary Powell, Lynn Puddington, Guillermo Risatti, Mark Robbins, Victoria Robinson, George Rossetti, Joseph Scheinfeldt, Gregory Semenza, Michael Smith, Megan Staples, Rachel Tambling, Alexander Teplyaev, Rachel Theodore, Xiuchun Tian, Peter Turchin, Paulo Verardi, Christopher Vials, and Michael Wallace.

1. Agenda item number one (1) – Call to order was announced at 3:00 pm by moderator Richard Bass. Greetings and introductions by all GFC members transpired.
2. Agenda item two (2) – Report from the Graduate Student Senate (GSS). Moderator Bass introduced GSS President Anthony Patelunas who informed GFC members that there was no new business, updates or announcements at this time. The first GSS meeting will take place later in the month.
3. Agenda item number three (3) – Report from Dean Kent Holsinger. Moderator Bass introduced Dean Holsinger who informed GFC members:
 - HBL Class of 1947 meeting room accommodations were small for such a large group and The Graduate School will look for a new meeting location (possibly Rowe/CUE building) hopefully with better access for the Health Center and Avery Point personnel.
 - Some statistics regarding graduate students:
 1. Out of 30,000 students, 7,000 are grad students, or 1 out of 4 are grad students
 2. Out of the 7,000, approximately 2,000 are international, 15% are domestic and 760 are underrepresented students
 3. There are 2,400 new students
 - a) Of those, almost 1/3 are new graduate students
 - b) Of those, 536 are international
 - c) Of those, 175 are underrepresented students
 - GA's are now members of the UAW union
 1. There are informational meetings/sessions for faculty and staff to attend

2. The union is made up of 2,300 GA's at UConn
- There are changes to health insurance for GAs and graduate students
 1. GAs can elect the Connecticut Partnership Plan (State Plan) and graduate and undergrad students can elect the student insurance plan administered through Consolidated Health Plan/Cigna
 2. The cost for both student and GA premiums have increased; however, dental coverage is now provided
 3. There is a 2 week gap in insurance coverage with the insurance change
 - a) The new insurance will begin on September 1
 - b) New students will have a gap between their arrival on August 15 until August 31, particularly international students
 - c) Depending on their visa status, international students may also be required to purchase insurance for medical evacuation and repatriation. The University identified a vendor who will provide the coverage for approximately \$84 per year
 - d) The gap will not interfere with students registering for classes
- The late bus from Willimantic to campus will continue
 1. UConn Transportation is willing to pay for 1/3 of the coverage for a late night bus to leave campus at 8:54
 2. Faculty, staff, and students can ride free using a bus pass, which can be picked up at the Transportation Office in Mansfield Center
4. Agenda item number four (4) – Voting on two (2) Executive Graduate Faculty Committee vacation positions/seats. GFC members were provided with a ballot and by a majority of votes, Maria-Luz Fernandez and Joseph Loturco were elected the newest GFC Executive Committee members.
5. The next meeting of the GFC is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 21, 2015 in the HBL Class of 1947 Conference Room.**
6. The meeting adjourned at 4:14 pm with 51 individuals present; 4 via video.