



Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2017

Location: J. Ryan Building Room 204

Subject: Graduate Faculty Council (GFC) Meeting Minutes Summary

Attendees: Mary Anne Amalaradjou, Mehdi Anwar, Janet Barnes-Farrell, Robert Bird, Judy Brown, Eric Brunner, Andrew Bush, Audrey Chapman, Zhiyi Chi, Stephen Crocker, Caroline Dealy, Amanda Denes, Pamela Diggle, Niloy Dutta, Maria-Luz Fernandez, Miguel Gomes, Jane Gordon, Kent Holsinger (Ex Officio), Magdalena Kaufmann, Lawrence Klobutcher, Barbara Kream (Ex-Officio), Adam Lepley, Louise Lewis, Charles Mahoney, Etan Markus, Paula McCauley, D. Betsy McCoach, Graham O'Toole, Barbara Parziale (Ex Officio – Secretary), Lynn Puddington, Subhash Ray, Heather Read, Mark Robbins, Beth Russell, Joel Salisbury, Cristian Schulthess, Kathy Segerson (Ex Officio), Judith Thorpe, Anastasios Tzingounis and Deepthi Varghese.

Absent: Daniel Adler, Mark Aindow, Richard Bass, Yongku Cho, Ki Chon, Casey Cobb, Mary Anne Doyle, Valerie Duffy, Jon Gajewski, Ashley Helton, Matthew Hughey, Nicholas Lownes, Guillermo Risatti, Victoria Robinson, Alexander Russell, Jennifer Scapetis, Gregory Semenza, Farhed Shah, Keith Simmons, Zeki Simsek, David Solomon, Gregory Sotzing, Jiong Tang, Rachel Theodore, Penny Vlahos, Andrew Wiemer, Peter Zarrow and Chuanrong Zhang and Cyrus Zirakzadeh

Guest: Gregory Bouquot, Interim Registrar

1. Agenda item number one (1) – Call to order. Moderator Charles Mahoney called to order the regular meeting of the GFC for September 20, 2017 at 3:01 pm.
2. Agenda item number two (2) – Welcome and introductions. Moderator Mahoney welcomed everyone to the new year of Graduate Faculty Council meetings. Members introduced themselves to the group.
3. Agenda item number three (3) – Approval of Minutes. Moderator Mahoney introduced the minutes of the April 19, 2017 meeting to the GFC. There was a motion offered, which was seconded and the motion was adopted in favor by all members present. **Agenda item number three (3) was passed unanimously without dissent on a show of hands.**
4. Agenda item number four (4) - Report from the Graduate Student Senate. Graham O'Toole is the new Parliamentarian for the GSS and made the following report:
 - a. The GSS hosted a barbeque for approximately 500 students at the beginning of the semester.
 - b. The first meeting of the GSS was held and a new Treasurer has been elected.
 - c. The GSS is looking for more information about the possibility of an Emerging Scholars Travel Award.
5. Agenda item number five (5) – Reorganization of The Graduate School. Dean Holsinger explained the reorganization to the membership.
 - a. In an effort to improve efficiency of operation, the following people/groups have been moved out of The Graduate School Offices:
 - i. Relocation of the Enrollment Services personnel to the Registrar's Office.

- ii. Return of Rowena Grainger to the ONSF office to deal with external fellowships.
 - iii. Ann Wilhelm has moved to OIRE for data reporting purposes.
 - b. Greg Bouquot from the Registrar's office noted the changes taking place there to accommodate the move of Enrollment Services:
 - i. More degree auditors will speed up the process.
 - ii. An Internal IT position will be added to improve record reporting and help to eventually put more paperwork online.
 - iii. Audit and compliance review.
 - iv. Process a new Graduate School Catalog which will list:
 - 1. Requirements for a degree.
 - 2. Current minimums for all programs.
 - 3. New and more specific academic requirements.
 - c. The Graduate School is looking to rebuild the Student Services section of the office in order to enhance the graduate student non-academic community experience. Because of the loss of Victoria Blodgett, Assistant Dean, and Charmane Thurmand, diversity and recruitment staff member, we will be hiring new staff personnel.
 - i. Fellowship Officer:
 - 1. Administer internal fellowships (Crandall-Cordero, Harriet Giolas, etc.).
 - 2. Recruitment of a greater diversity of students.
 - 3. Cultural support for diversity students.
 - ii. Conduct Specialist:
 - 1. Administer Leave of Absence, Withdrawals, Reinstatements and Term Cancellations.
 - 2. Counseling students; help students navigate The Graduate School policies and procedures; process hearings if necessary.
 - 3. Administer GA appointment milestone increases.
 - 4. Supplemental Employment approvals.
 - d. The admission staff will remain in The Graduate School administrative offices since undergrad and graduate admission procedures are completely different.
6. Agenda item number six (6) – Planned changes to fellowship programs in The Graduate School.
 - a. Set a single stipend level independent of RA or TA for all fellowships awarded.
 - b. Reorganize the dollar amounts of the fellowships to compete with larger universities.
 - c. This will result in fewer fellowships but could be more successful by attracting better students to UConn.
7. Agenda item number seven (7) – Call for nominations to the Executive Committee of The Graduate School.
 - a. Four appointment terms expire this year
 - i. Sylvain Deguise
 - ii. Charles Mahoney
 - iii. Etan Markus
 - iv. Lynn Puddington
 - b. Current members may be re-nominated for these positions
 - c. Nominations will be solicited by e-mail. Vote will take place at the next meeting of the GFC.
8. Agenda item number eight (8) – New Business, Updates and Announcements.
 - a. There were no other new business, updates or announcements.
9. There was a motion offered for adjournment, which was seconded and the motion was adopted in favor by all members present. The motion was passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 4:09 pm with 40 individuals present.
10. The next regular meeting of the GFC is scheduled for October 18, 2017 in Room 204 of the J. Ryan Building.