



Date: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 @ 3:04 pm to 4:10 pm

Location: Room 200 – Whetten Graduate Center

Subject: Graduate Faculty Council (GFC) Meeting Minutes Summary

Attendees: Kari Adamsons, Daniel Adler, Ivy Alexander, Sheila Andrew (alternate for Kumar Venkitanarayana), Janet Barnes-Farrell, Richard Bass, Victoria Blodgett, Andrew Bush, Patrick Butler, Zhiyi Chi, Steven Demurjian, Craig Denegar, Kimberly Dodge-Kafka, Mary Anne Doyle, Gerald Dunne, Valerie Duffy (alternate for Pouran Faghri), Maria-Luz Fernandez, Miguel Gomes, Mark Hamilton, Ashley Helton, Kent Holsinger, Kelly Jones, Charles Mahoney, George McManus, Lynn Puddington, Heather Read, Mark Robbins, Sue Saunders, Pam Schipani (guest), Cristian Schulthess, Farhed Shah, Michael Smith, David Stern, Mark Urban, Timothy Vadas and Janet Watson.

Absent: Hector Aguila, Jason Charrette, Joanne Conover, Jane Anna Gordon, Mitch Green, Christopher Heinen, Thomas Kehle, Barbara Kream, Kenneth Noll, Gary Powell, Anji Seth, Tammie Spaulding and Megan Staples.

1. Agenda item number one (1) – *Call to order* by Kent Holsinger at 3:04.
2. Agenda item number two (2) – *Welcome Back* by Kent Holsinger.
3. Agenda item number three (3) – *Introduction of Victoria Blodgett – Assistant Dean for Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Affairs in The Graduate School* by Kent Holsinger. Victoria was welcomed by the committee members and she gave a brief overview of her credentials and some of the items she has already encouraged The Graduate School to engage in (e.g., brown bag serious with grad students and working with Kay Kimball Gruder (Center for Career Development)).
4. Guest Pam Schipani, Executive Director of the Department of Residential Life was introduced by Kent Holsinger and welcomed to speak to the committee regarding graduate housing.
 - a. History – There is housing for 12,700 students – 28 were set aside for graduate students. During the summer, Residential Life met with the Provost regarding student housing and where the most needs are required. At the meeting, questions were raised on whether there is still a need to house graduate students due to a change in the demand.
 - b. There are currently 150 apartment beds for “off-campus” housing, which is preferred by domestic graduate students. Specially, they are choosing to live in the Oaks.
 - c. There was a request from 92 international graduate students for housing. Of those, 32 cancelled. By the start of the AY, 26 of the 60 open beds were occupied.
 - d. For AY 2015-2016, Residential Life will have 40 beds available for graduate students.

Discussion ensued regarding the reason behind the beds not being occupied by graduate students and if there was data on the percentage of students at Oak.

5. Agenda item number four (4) – *Approval of minutes of the meeting of April 16, 2014* was introduced by Kent Holsinger. The item was moved, seconded, and **passed by voice vote without dissent.**
6. Agenda item number five (5) – *Report from Jason Charrette, President Graduate Student Senate*, was introduced by Kent Holsinger. In Jason’s absence, Patrick Butler spoke on his behalf.
 - a. GA Payroll: There were several GAs who did not get their pay checks in a timely manner. Specifically, there were 29 students in Communications due to the late processing of GA payroll paperwork. A majority of students are taking out a loan through GSS.

Discussion ensued regarding the details of the late payments and Mark Hamilton requested a follow up from GSS regarding the 29 Communication students.

7. Agenda item number six (6) – *Presented for voting – Open Executive Committee Member Seat* – was discussed and **postponed until the October 15, 2014 meeting.**
8. Agenda item number seven (7) – *Presented for discussion – Graduate School By-Laws: Modifying the term of GFC Members* – was discussed, moved, seconded and **passed by voice vote without dissent.**
9. Agenda item number eight (8) – *Presented for voting – Proposal from Psychology* – was discussed, moved, seconded and **passed by voice vote without dissent.**
10. Report from Dean Kent Holsinger.
 - a. Kent invited all members of the GFC to attend The Graduate School’s 75th Anniversary celebration on October 2, 2014 from 1:00 to 3:00.
 - b. Kent reminded all members of the GFC that the Whetten Graduate Center will be undergoing renovations starting at the end of November. One of the renovations is turning 200 into offices, which eliminates a meeting place for GSS and future GFC meetings.
 - c. Kent discussed that starting Spring 2015, ISSS will have an admissions deadline for international students (I-20s) one (1) month before the semester starts. Kent discussed the possibility of The Graduate School adopting a deadline for admissions for both international and domestic students.
 - d. Kent discussed the time to degree policy requirements for dual admissions into Masters and PhD programs.
11. The next meeting of the Graduate Faculty Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, October 15, 2014.
12. The meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm with 36 individuals in attendance.