Invited Guest: Vin Del Casino


Members Not Present/Excused: Cindy Elliott, Dianne Horgan, Janis Burt, Jesse Bockstedt, Kirsten Limesand, Leisy Wyman, Robert Fleischman, Tom Kennedy, Walter Klimecki,

I. Call to Order and Roll Call.
   The meeting was called to order by Chair Koen Visscher at 3:00 p.m.
   a. Attendance was taken using a roll call sheet.

II. Approval of Minutes.
    Anne Rosenfeld moved to accept the minutes as presented and Richard Orozco seconded. The August 28th, 2015 minutes were approved as presented.

III. Dean’s Report — Carnie
    a. Admission and Enrollment — Enrollment is up very slightly – up 95 students this year, mostly Masters Students. A breakdown by program was sent to College Deans. There still is still confusion across campus about RCM2. Andrew stated that he would be happy to come to Heads and Directors meetings at individual colleges to give a short presentation about Graduate RCM. Andrew asked members of the Graduate Council to get with their Dean to determine if they would like such a presentation and then a time could be arranged.
    b. Associate Dean, Janet Sturman – The library will stop charging graduate students the archiving and ProQuest fee of $95.00 effective immediately. Masters Students will also be encouraged to deposit their Master’s Thesis with the library. There will be no charge for Master’s Thesis. Janet will develop guidelines for the filing of Master’s Thesis and send them out to departments soon. She also announced a request from the Nursing DMP Program regarding online defenses. It doesn’t make sense to schedule a room and so Nursing has requested authorization to publish the WebEx link for those who would like to attend virtually. (did we have a decision?) There was discussion about suitable rooms to use for online or WebEx meetings. Janet is collecting ideas and so asked that members send any ideas to her. Janet also mentioned that the Graduate College will participate in organizing the Grad Slam again this academic year but it will take place in the spring rather than the fall. There will also be a state competition between UA and NAU. ASU hasn’t done a Grad Slam yet but will put one together this year so they can participate in the Regional event next year.

IV. UA Online Updates – Del Casino
    Vin Del Casino gave an overall update on the UA Online systems. There are 14 graduate programs with 448 students in UA online. The total UA Online enrollment is 903 students. They are in the process of structural readjustments. The Graduate College is actively working with Vin and team. There are currently challenges within the GA system. We are working to have the same benefit for all graduate students who are GA’s/RA’s. As of August 2016 there will no longer be an Outreach College. There are now 5 components within the UA system – Online, Distance, Main Campus, South Campus and Phoenix campus. Any program can exist in either campus. Vin stated that tuition and billing follow the student in the campus they are enrolled in and they cannot be in multiple campuses. Any degree that the UA offers can be on any of the 5 campuses. All of the programs have not been fully migrated yet; there is another year of work to be done. If there are questions in departments of how to offer a program online please contact Vin’s office. Vin stated that he will be happy to come back and bring the team to have a more in depth discussion.
V. Chairs Report – Chair Visscher –
   Nothing to report, Chair Visscher is still waiting for the report from SPBAC.

VI. GPSC Report: Netherton
   Sarah reported she is working on legislative policies. She is working with ASU and NAU on
going to the Capital when there are legislative issues and GPSC has also partnered with a new
organization of student advocates for graduate education. They only invite one student
government every year and UA GPSC was chosen this year. They will communicate with
GPSC when they have issues not encountered before. This will include having Sarah take a trip
to DC every year to lobby for Graduate Student Issues in Higher Ed.

VII. Information Items:
   a. Graduate Grievance Committee Status - Sturman – The first meeting of the hearing committee
      and colleagues are moving swiftly and impressively forward. Janet mentioned that we still need
members of faculty at large to be in the pool for the Grievance committee. Janet asked
members to send her any names. We need a total of 12 faculty at large members for the pool
of committee members. Janet will send a brief email to departments to post with the particulars
of responsibilities.

   b. Proposals for Professional Programs Subcommittee (DVM, MS – Animal Sciences –
      Sturman – The proposal has gone out to the Ad Hoc Committee. They will convene on Friday,
October 2nd. The results of that meeting will then be taken to a meeting with the Provost on
Thursday, October 8th and then the proposal will come to the Graduate Council at the October
16th meeting.

VIII. Discussion Items:
   a. Adding letter grade option for house numbered courses - Sturman
      There is an interest in adding a letter grade option for current pass/fail house numbered courses
      at the graduate level. It would give students greater options. Janet asked for a consensus of
the Graduate Council members. It would be an option and not required. The instructor can
chose at the time of listing a course. It would be done when the administrator is putting the
course in the system. For instance it would be 693 practicum and 695 and 697 workshops. The
members discussed this option. John Koshel moved that the Graduate Council approve the
option of adding a letter grade option for house numbered courses and John Koprowski
seconded the motion. A vote was taken and motion passed.

   b. Grad Syllabus Policy- Sturman
      Janet proposed that the Graduate Council initiate a Graduate Syllabus policy in order to
eliminate confusion. Janet suggested the undergraduate syllabus policy could be adapted for
Graduate Studies. She also introduced a template from Social and Behavioral Sciences. She
suggested that the Grad Council could make a template and a fillable syllabus policy for
departments to plug in their own information. Discussion ensued. Many members stressed the
different relationship between faculty and graduate students. Janet agreed to trim down the
template to minimum critical materials. Sarah, Barry and Janet will work on a draft and bring to
a future meeting.

Sarah moved to adjourn the meeting and John Umbreit seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The
next Graduate Council meeting will be Friday, October 16th in the Sabino room (3rd level) in the Student Union.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Ann Bjerk-Plocke
Graduate Council Secretary