Graduate Council Meeting
August 20, 2010
Ventana Room
3:00 PM

Minutes

Invited guests:  Sheryl Wurl, Director, Human Subjects Protection Program; Tom Rhodes; Andrew Carnie, Faculty Director of GIDPs

Members Present:  Zhao Chen, Andrew Comrie, Emily Connally, William Epstein, Dianne Horgan, Kathie Insel, Suzanne Knosp, Tsianina Lomawaima, Carl Maes, Katherine Morrissey, Lisa Ordonez, Betul Ozkan, Sue Rawley, Eliane Rubinstein-Avila, Tim Secomb, Mary Teresa Velez, Linda Waugh, and John Williams,

Members Not Present:  Allison Betts, Nathan Cherrington, David Chisholm, Matthew Cordes, Steven Dvorak, Dennis Doxtater, Gautam Gowrisankaran, Ivy Pike, Barry Pryor, Andrei Sanov, Megan Stone, Gail Varin, and Rose Ylimaki

Call to Order and Roll Call.  The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Chair Tsianina Lomawaima.

Approval of the Minutes of April 2010 Meeting.  The minutes of the April 23, 2010 meeting were approved as read with a vote of 17 in favor, 0 opposed, and one abstention.

Chair Lomawaima welcomed new and returning members to the first meeting of the 2010-2011 academic year.  Introductions around the table were made..

Dean’s Report.  Dean Comrie reported that several issues relevant to graduate education occurred over the summer.  The voters in Arizona approved the one cent increase in sales tax. He reported that Dr. Andrew Carnie has been appointed by the Chair of the Faculty to serve in a part-time capacity as the Faculty Director of the Graduate Interdisciplinary Programs (GIDPs). (GIDPs).

Parental leave for graduate TAs and RAs is pending approval. GAs can apply for 6 weeks of paid parental leave. Because of limited funds, leaves will be granted on a first come, first served basis. The projected budget for this benefit is only an estimate since this year will be the pilot year. This benefit may also serve as a plus to our efforts to recruit TAs and GAs. Parental leave is an additional benefit in our recruiting efforts.

There was no Chair’s report.

GPSC Report.  Member Connally reported that over the summer the GPSC office has added two student work stations that will be available to the students to use.  725 students attended Graduate Orientation, an increase of approximately 100 students over the normal attendance.
Travel grants process is completely online now. Agenda items for the coming academic year include getting the Bill of Rights posted online, adding links to graduate enrichment to put on one to two-day courses to community members — conducted by the Department of Psychology. They have 80 students in over 30 departments, including 15 professors who will be involved in these courses. Competition will increase for external funding. Fee and tuition talks.

New Business

A. Revision to Continuous Enrollment Policy. Member Horgan brought a proposed revision to the Continuous Enrollment policy before the Council. The current continuous enrollment policy allows doctoral students who have completed all their requirements to take only one credit of dissertation to maintain continuous enrollment; however, master’s students in the same situation must take 3 credit of thesis. The proposed change is for consistency so that both master’s and doctoral students need to take only one credit of dissertation of thesis to maintain continuous enrollment. The council agreed to seek further input and delay a vote until a future meeting.

INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Overview of Council and Grad College (Comrie)

Dean Comrie explained the organization of the Graduate College and the role of the Graduate Council

B. Newsletter.

The Graduate College has developed a Graduate College Newsletter that will come out occasionally when there is news to be announced that affect the graduate community as a whole. The current edition is available at http://grad.arizona.edu/gradnews. The newsletter summarizes recent important changes to Human Subjects procedures, elimination of Supplemental Registration (930), replacement of GROs with Academic Renewal, new availability of Pass/Fail grading at the graduate level, and replacement of conversion to non-degree with Academic Disqualification.

C. Admissions Update (Velez)

Admission and enrollment data can be viewed at http://grad.arizona.edu/dean-updates/weekly-enrollments. Fall enrollment numbers look good.

D. Mosaic updates/issues (Horgan)

Mosaic project is going well and we are working toward the graduate advising module and expect a fall go-live.
E. Human Subjects Discussion (Wurl)

Revised Form items for Responsible Conduct of Research. Members Comrie and Horgan reported that the several degree progress forms are being revised to reflect more streamlined procedures. Changes include having the Human Subjects Protection Program help students determine whether or not their project/thesis work requires IRB approval, and an easing of practice by HSPP on “grandfathered” student projects that fall under a PI’s grant. Changes have been made to the following forms:

a. Doctoral Plan of Study
b. Master's Plan of Study
c. Committee Appointment Form

There was no Old Business.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m. The next meeting of the Graduate Council will be September 17, in the Regents’ Room (7th floor of the Administration Building) from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Nultemeier
Graduate Council Secretary