Graduate Council Meeting Notes
February 17, 2006

Present:

Council Members: Dale Alspach, Carolyn Henry, Bob Hunger, Diane Montgomery, Doren Recker, John Romans,
GPSGA: Shirley Vincent
Graduate College: Gordon Emslie and Craig Satterfield

Approval of January 20, 2006 Minutes:
Following a motion (Henry) and a second (Alspach), minutes from the January 20, 2006 meeting of the Council were approved.

Graduate & Professional Student Government Association (GPSGA) Report – Shirley Vincent

- The OSU Campus Master Plan Task Force finalized its list of recommendations which will be formally presented to President Schmidly.
- Wendy James has done an excellent job of working with the Graduate College to coordinate the Research Symposium. GPSGA also was asked by Dr. McKeever to co-sponsor and coordinate the keynote speaker, Dr. Roland Fryer, Harvard Economist.
- There is a call for nominations for the Phoenix Awards that honor an outstanding Master’s student, Doctoral student and Graduate Faculty member. The deadline for applications is March 15 with a reception honoring the recipients and the winners of the Research Symposium on April 12.
- Four resolutions were passed at the last two General Assembly meetings.
- National Graduate Student Appreciation Week is April 3-7, 2006. GPSGA is planning a picnic; exact date and time will be determined at a later date.

Rules Committee – Dale Alspach
Two requests were presented to the Council. After discussion, motions and seconds were made with one recommendation from the Rules Committee approved unanimously and the other approved with one opposition.

New Business
Academic Program Reviews (APRs) – Due 1 April 2006
- APRs are authored by Department/Unit Heads and provided to the Provost.
- Beginning in 2005, the Provost invited the Graduate College to review and comment on these APRs in relation to the Graduate programs involved.
- Hence, each Group is asked to review, evaluate and provide comments on the APRs within their Group to Dr. Emslie by April 1. After the commentary is received, Dr. Emslie will prepare a report that is provided to the Provost and the Department/Unit Heads.
- Emphasis should be placed on graduate programs within units.

Graduate College Report – Gordon Emslie
Based on meeting with the Registrar, a unified graduate transcript is possible; however, there cannot be separate grade point averages for masters and doctoral courses.

Dr. Emslie will present/discuss this at the next GPSGA Officer’s meeting.

A unified transcript will go into effect on July 1, 2006. Before this date, students will have two transcripts. After July 1, they will have a unified transcript.

There is the possibility with the unified transcript to “nest” courses taken for graduate degrees and certificates. Please talk to groups about this and provide feedback, as changes in the catalog would be required.

Discussion transpired related to adding the Plan of Study grade point average, probationary status, and the Graduate Dean’s list to transcripts. Dr. Emslie would like student input regarding these situations as these would require manual entering and would be a permanent record on the transcript.

The call for Graduate Research Excellence awards will be coming soon.

The College of Education has offered to host the next GPSGA meeting in the Willard Living Room

Dr. Emslie will meet on March 10 with the Provost and others to discuss financial aid issues relating to graduate students taking undergraduate courses that constitute additional degree requirements.

Old Business

Group Bylaws

Each Group is asked to change wording in their bylaws to be consistent with the recently approved, new bylaws regarding types of memberships.

Groups may want to state in their bylaws that faculty must have three years of continuous employment at O.S.U. to serve on the Council.

Department Heads will need to send a memo to the Graduate College when a new faculty member is hired to request appointment as a Member of the Graduate Faculty. Dr. Emslie will send them a response informing them of their acceptance or denial. If approved, this will not automatically confer the privilege to chair doctoral committees. In order to obtain this privilege, the request must be submitted (nomination form GF-1) and approved via the appropriate Group.

Guidelines for Split Votes on Graduate Committees – Tabled until March meeting.

Definition of Graduate Teaching Assistants – Tabled until March meeting.

Associate Dean of the Graduate College

Dr. Mark Payton will be the new Associate Dean beginning May 1, 2006. Dr. Emslie commended Dr. Jordan for her outstanding performance in the Interim role.

Publication Holds on Theses and Dissertations

Proposed documentation was discussed with the Office of Counsel, who recommended only minor wording changes to the effect that any request to defer publication of
thesis/dissertation research should be routed to the Graduate College through the appropriate College Dean/Associate Dean for Research.

- There was a motion (Recker) and second (Alspach) to approve the document. Motion approved.

Appeals Process for Graduate Students in issues not related to grades or academic conduct.

- An initial draft was distributed; please provide comments/input to Dr. Hunger.
- Dr. Emslie would like to see OSU move toward having a “General Examination,” which would serve as the formal divider between the department/academic college and examinations under the jurisdiction of the advisory committee, and hence Graduate College.
- The appeals process Dr. Hunger is working on would apply only to issues that fall under the jurisdiction of the Graduate College.
- Dr. Emslie would like the Groups to discuss this at your meetings. He suggested that the cleanest way for this work would be to introduce a new name for the “dividing” exam.
- Dr. Emslie encouraged the Groups to discuss “R” grades at the Group meetings in March. Specific issues include how many hours (if any) of “R” coursework should be changed to a letter grade. (Note also that the Grade Appeals Board will not consider appeals relating to “R” grades.)

Graduate Faculty Bylaws

- The proposed bylaws passed by a vote of 345 for, 31 against, and 1 abstention. They will go into effect March 1, 2006.
- The Graduate Faculty nomination form (GF-1) will be edited to reflect changes that coincide with the new bylaws.
- Faculty who are currently Full Members will be entered as being able to chair doctoral committees. Current Associate Members will be entered as not being able to chair doctoral committees.

Membership Status of a Faculty Member

- Henry brought forth a Graduate Faculty nomination form that was overlooked in her group last fall. The faculty involved believed the form had been submitted in time, and would like Council to consider it.
- The suggestion was made that the faculty member concerned waits two weeks, request membership under the new bylaws and then submit the paperwork to his Group for consideration of receiving the privilege to chair doctoral committees.

Meeting adjourned: 3:30 pm

Next meeting of the GC: March 24, 2006 in 201 Willard at 1:30pm.