Graduate Council Minutes  
October 23, 2015

Present:
Dr. Brenda Smith, Vice-Chair
Dr. Justin Moss, Group I
Dr. Tonia Sharlach, Group II
Dr. Albert Rosenberger, Group III
Dr. Ajay Sukhdial, Group IV
Dr. Jon Ramsey, Group V
Dr. Doug Smith, Group V
Dr. Earl Blewett, Group VI

Graduate College:
Dr. Sheryl Tucker
Dr. Jean Van Delinder
Dr. Ken Clinkenbeard

Guests:
Dr. Hongyu Wong
Catherine Haviland

Meeting
Vice-Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm with a quorum present. Following a motion (Dr. Ramsey) and a second (Dr. D. Smith), the minutes of the meeting on September 23, 2015 were approved.

Deviation of Agenda
Vice-Chair Smith asked the Council for a deviation of the Agenda to accommodate the guest in attendance. Dr. Ramsey moved to allow the deviation and Dr. D. Smith seconded the motion, and the Council passed the motion.

New Business
Academic Program Committee (APC). The proposed Graduate Certificate in College Teaching was discussed with program representative Dr. Hongyu Wong. Dr. Wong provided information about the certificate as a program specifically designed to help both current faculty and graduate students enhance their ability to teach at the college level. Dr. Wong answered questions posed by the Council. Recommendation by APC to approve was seconded by Dr. Ramsey. Motion carried.

GPSGA Report
GPSGA President, Ms. Catherine Haviland provided an overview of the GPSGA activities. Recently, the group adopted a charity to help a Stillwater homeless shelter and is planning other activities in support of the program. The GPSGA
intergovernmental liaison recommended they submit a letter in support of the Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act of 2015 be sent to our congressional delegation. Finally, GPSGA is taking steps to include graduate students at the Tulsa campus and will vote to include these programs as a new group in their upcoming meetings. Ms. Haviland answered questions posed by the Council.

**Graduate College Report**
Dr. Tucker discussed a series of mentoring activities for Graduate Faculty in the form of “lunch-and-learns” or hour-long sessions during the lunch hour. The initial program was on best practices in mentoring and a second session is being planned for November. The Graduate College leadership team has begun visiting graduate programs to discuss best practices and address any concerns that may not be otherwise vocalized. Three programs have already been visited with several more scheduled this semester. Dr. Tucker also reminded the Council that the Three Minute Presentation Finals will take place on November 12 in the Student Union Little Theater and all graduate students and faculty are encouraged to attend.

**Old Business**
*Creative Component Discussion:* Dr. Tucker reported this topic is being discussed at the October Subject Matter Group meetings, and we are finding that practices around the creative component can vary greatly from program to program. Vice-Chair Smith will form an investigative committee and asked for representative recommendations from the Subject Matter Groups. Dr. Tucker then answered questions posed by the Council.

**New Business**
*Earning Multiple Options Under the Same Degree Program.* Dr. Tucker noted that there is no policy currently that specifically forbids graduate students from earning multiple degrees within the same major. Because the state Board of Regents has a policy prohibiting this for undergraduate degrees, Dr. Tucker has been encouraged by the Registrar to develop a policy for graduate students. The practice has been that graduate students can earn more than one option but not more than one degree in the same major. Following discussions at the Subject Matter Group meetings, the Council will revisit this issue.

*Group Communications.* Vice-Chair Smith opened discussion to help improve communications practices across all groups. Suggestions included sending out highlights of group meetings and other utilizations of group mailing lists. Vice-Chair Smith will confer with the Graduate College about ways to improve communication without adding a burden to the Subject Matter Group Officers.

*Athletic Training Group Affiliation.* The Athletic Training program is not currently assigned to a Subject Matter Group. After discussion, Dr. Blewett moved to assign the program to Group VI and Dr. D. Smith seconded. Motion carried.
Other
Dr. Ramsey moved to adjourn and Dr. D. Smith seconded. After passing, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm.