Present:
Dr. Lowell Caneday, Vice-Chair
Dr. William McGlynn, Group I
Dr. Brenda Smith, Group I
Dr. Allen Scott, Group II
Dr. Randi Eldevik, Group II
Dr. Mark Wilkins, Group III
Dr. Marlys Mason, Group IV
Dr. Rebecca Sheehan, Group IV
Dr. Tim Passmore, Group V
Dr. Pamela Lloyd, Group VI

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

Guests:
Rachel Eike, GPSGA
Dr. Mihyun Kang
Dr. Shiretta Ownbey

Dr. Caneday called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm with a quorum present. Following a motion (Dr. Scott) and a second (Dr. Passmore) the minutes were approved with edits.

GPSGA report
Research week is gearing up and GPSGA is in charge of the symposium. They are still short on judges. For example, over 20 abstracts have been submitted from Psychology but only two judges from Psychology have been secured. There are 282 presentation including both oral and posters have registered, slightly down from last year. The biggest drop was McNair students’ participation.

GPSGA officer election is March 6. The reason for the early elections is because the current officers wanted an extended transition time between old and new officers to permit a better understanding of operations.

Shirley Evans will be attending Legislative Actions Days in Washington, DC. for the NAGS regional meeting. GPSGA we will be sending four officers to a regional meeting in Missouri.

Graduation Education Week is first week of April. Applications are due Monday for the Phoenix Awards and Outstanding TA award. Information about how to apply is on the GPSGA website.

Graduate College Report
The listservs are up and running but have not been tested. We sent out our first monthly memo to Graduate students. The summer dissertation fellowships are due next Friday,
Phoenix awards are due on Monday, as well as Graduate Coordinator and Staff nominations. April 15 is the deadline for students to accept financial offers for graduate programs. If they accept an offer, they have to obtain a release from the original school before they accept a second offer. Implication of State Question 759 were discussed. CollegeNet is slightly behind the desired schedule; residency decisions require a manual process but trying to find a way to automate. Mid-spring is the target date to test.

**New Program Requests/Changes**

*Master of Science in Design, Housing and Merchandising, with an online option to be delivered through the Great Plains IDEA consortium.* APC moved, Dr. Sheehan seconded. Approved.

*Master of Agriculture in International Agriculture*, new degree request. APC moved, Dr. McGlynn seconded. Approved.

*Master of Science in International Agriculture*, new degree request: APC moved, Dr. Wilkins seconded. Amend motion to accept with the change of the NREM requirement changes. Approved

**New Business**

**Academic Policies**

New Policy – Leave of Absence. The proposed policy is aligned with national best practices in graduate education and addresses Title IX concerns. Students will need advised about all of their options. Motion to support sending the document to General Council for review. Approved.

New policy – Reduced Continuous Enrollment for Doctoral Candidates. After completion of the requirements for admission to doctoral candidacy (candidacy form accepted by the Graduate College), a post-comp doctoral student would qualify them for reduced enrollment of two credit hours and still be considered full-time. Continuous enrollment would also be required.

Catalog Pg. 152 – Enrollment Requirements. Current policy allows graduate students to take 16 hours without permission; new recommendation of 12 hours. Current policy states that a student can only use one graduate course taken during the Maymester (Summer Session 1) on the Plan of Study. Unclear that policy is known or enforced.

Catalog Pg. 31 – Continuous Enrollment. There was a consensus that the graduate continuous enrollment should match the undergraduate policy, which requires students to reapply if they are absent one semester. The current graduate policy allows students to be absent one day short of a year. It is difficult for programs to know who their students are and causes problems for students trying to finish.

Adjourned 3:35 pm