Dr. Caneday called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm with a quorum present. Following a motion, it was decided to defer approval of the minutes to investigate corrections. Dr. Caneday adjusted the agenda to move up a presentation under New Business to accommodate guests.

**New Business**

*GTA Taskforce Presentation.* Last spring a GTA Professional Development Taskforce was formed to study how OSU can facilitate, support and enhance the success of all GTAs. For the past two years, there has been one day of GTA training during welcome week.

Drs. Christine Johnson and Frank Blum, co-chairs on report, provided an overview of the Taskforce efforts and recommendations. Their tasks were divided into three subgroups: 1) to determine the scope of role (what are the expectations) of GTAs; 2) to determine best practices for the support of GTAs at peer institutions; and 3) to determine what the existing structures for GTA training and support are at OSU.

An extensive report from the Taskforce was sent to the Dean of the Graduate College and now shared with Council.
Major Findings: GTA’s are used in every form and function across the university, but not all have interact directly with students. There is not enough time during the week before classes to adequately prepare GTA’s for the semester.

Major Recommendations: 1) Professional development program is strongly recommended due to the extensive use of GTA’s across campus. 2) Adequate training for GTA’s will include the need for them to be on campus earlier than just one week before the semester starts. 3) It was also recommend that a new position be created for professional development housed in either the Graduate College or Provost’s Office.

Open questions from Council: Should we consider continuing GTA’s training and not limit to new GTA’s? Some schools/department may want to conduct their own GTA training. What about contract start dates adjustment? Chemistry has an additional stipend to do additional training after they have passed the ITA test.

Given the other report recommendations, the ITA test this year was organized by the Graduate College and run by Drs. Clinkenbeard, Satterfield and Halleck. There was a discussion about doing a pilot on distance testing that Dr. Halleck would be comfortable supporting. The concept of an all-University calendar is coming to fruition. A related issue was brought up – can the University Faculty Preparation Certification (UFP) be integrated with GTA training. The GTA training has to include returning as well as new GTA’s which was done this year. We had close to 300 attend the training this year.

GPSGA report
GPSGA President Catherine Molleno reported they had the following new officers: secretary, parliamentarian and vice president. There is a Welcome Reception scheduled for August 22 from 5-7 pm in Starlight Terrace. The first assembly is scheduled for September 4, and it will go over Roberts’ Rules and sign up for committees. GPSGA organizations have to attend 75% of the time to qualify for funding of any kind. Goal this year is to get the name of GPSGA out there for more recognition. The project for campus Safe Walk has been funded. Since GPSGA did not use all their travel funding last year, they will need more contact with Graduate Coordinators to push students to participate so they can be qualified for travel funds. It was suggested that it would be a good idea to have a GPSGA officer come to all of the Group meetings.

Graduate College Report
Dr. Clinkenbeard was introduced and welcomed as a new Associate Dean for the Graduate College.

CollegeNet. Batch two updates have been submitted, but a launch date has not been established. Application numbers reported historically are not accurate (included incomplete and unpaid applications). These numbers will be updated and are expected to change substantially going forward. Once they release the Admit system to us, we will be able to determine the schedule.
3MT® Competition. 12 finalists competed in June. Opportunities are available for winners to present to the Provost’s External Advisory Council, and Council of Southern Graduate Schools’ 3MT® Competition in San Antonio in February 2014. We are looking for a corporate sponsor for future 3MT® competitions which would help defray the costs. Right now, it is scheduled to be held during Graduate Education Week in April. ITLE filmed the presentations, and they are available on OState TV. Outside judges included representatives from Haliburton, Stillwater Public Schools and the Masonic Charity Foundation. We will use this year’s presentations to calibrate judges next spring.

Old Business
Graduate Council By-Laws. The Bylaws need to be revised since paragraph 2.0, which lists the current degrees and programs, are now outdated since their last revision in May, 2009. Amending the Bylaws requires 2/3 vote of Council or 2/3 vote of a Group that comes to the Council for majority vote. In addition, it has to go out to all Graduate Faculty for a 2/3 vote of the total votes cast in a referendum. Those who eligible to vote are described in Section 2.2.4, which states they must have an academic appointment. However, the “voting” faculty are not all faculty. Our definitions have changed. Our Code of Operations will need to be revised as well. It will trickle down to Groups changing their Bylaws. The Council was asked to look at the proposal and Bylaws and give the committee feedback.

Maximum Enrollment Without Permission Policy. There was an objection from the Spears School of Business about reducing the maximum number of graduate hours per semester from 16 credits to 12 without permission. Though it is possible to mandate the minimum number of hours by college, this might not be the best solution. A decision needs to be made about reducing the maximum number of hours a student can enroll in by end of September. It was decided to invite Dr. Mark Weiser or his representative to address the Council for exceptions for SSB and for Dr. Romans for exceptions in Education.

Adjourned 3:08 pm