Graduate Council Minutes
March 21, 2011

Council Members Present:
Dr. Lowell Caneday, Vice-Chair
Dr. Barbara Stoecker, Group I
Dr. Merrall Price, Group II
Dr. David D’Andrea, Group II
Dr. Rob Whiteley, Group III
Dr. Marlys Mason, Group IV
Dr. Kathleen Kelsey, Group V
Dr. Tim Passmore, Group V
Dr. Greg Sawyer, Group VI
Dr. Pamela Lloyd, Group VI

Graduate College:
Dr. Mark Payton
Dr. Jean Van Delinder

Caneday called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

Approval of February 18, 2011 minutes.

Following a motion (Kelsey) and a second (Passmore) the minutes of the February 18, 2011 meeting were approved.

GPSGA report.

No GPSGA officer was present to give a report.

Graduate College Report

Van Delinder will be contacting the vice chairs to set up a meeting of the membership subcommittee after all groups have met but before the next Council meeting. Payton reported that Research Week went reasonably well. Van Delinder reported that the online Plan of Study application is now live, and the Graduate College will require this format after June 1. There will be training/information sessions for graduate coordinators in the fall semester. Whiteley asked about the process of submitting a plan electronically. Payton responded that this process isn’t paperless, but the contents of the plan are stored electronically to allow a student or graduate coordinator to view it easily and to allow the plan to be populated from existing databases, such as the course inventory on SIS or the Graduate Faculty Database. The plan will still be submitted on paper to the Graduate College with wet signatures of committee members. We are keeping the wet signatures in an effort to encourage committees to meet.

New Program Requests/Changes

None
Old Business

*Alterations in GF1 Forms* – Passmore distributed existing and proposed GF1 forms for consideration. He mentioned that there were those that expressed concern about school/department heads signing their own forms. It was decided that since the department head didn’t have final approval and subsequent approval steps exist at the group level and with Council, there was no conflict with having heads sign their own forms. Another issue raised was that OSU faculty rank, and whether or not the applicant was even a member of the OSU Faculty, needed more clarification on the form. Passmore agreed to work on the document and bring back to the Council in April. Due to difficulties arising from the differences in member and affiliate requirements, Kelsey made a motion to have separate forms for these two groups. The motion was seconded by Stoecker. After discussion, motion failed by voice vote.

*Policy on Acknowledgements in Theses/Dissertations* – Payton reported that the proposal to remove the Acknowledgements page from the Graduate College template that is used to upload theses and dissertations into UMI was endorsed by the Executive Committee of GPSGA. The Provost signed off on the proposal, making it official. Due to opposition expressed in the Spring Group V meeting, both Kelsey and Passmore requested to have their vote for approval retracted.

New Business

Caneday gave an update on Dean’s search. The Provost declared it a failed search and will readvertise the position in the fall. Payton has agreed to continue to serve as interim dean until the position is filled. The Provost also requested input from Council regarding the possibility of advertising the position as Dean of the Graduate College and Associate Provost in an effort to get a better pool of candidates. Concern was expressed that the addition of the associate provost title is a step toward the removal of the dean title. Payton remarked that he didn’t think that was the Provost’s intent, but he didn’t know this for sure. Concern was also expressed that the addition of the associate provost title was unnecessary title inflation and, in an environment of budget cuts and no raises, this sends the wrong message. Otherwise, no strong objections to the title change were expressed, and Caneday agreed to respond that Council was not opposed to the change.

Election of Vice Chair. The Bylaws of the OSU Graduate Faculty state that at least two candidates for Vice Chair must be presented. Price nominated Allen Scott, Department of Music, for this position. He has agreed to serve. Caneday expended considerable effort to find another candidate, but failed to do so. In order to conform to the Bylaws, Whiteley nominated Caneday for another term as Vice Chair. Orcutt stated that she will ask Lan Zhu to help create an online voting site to facilitate the election.

Other

The next meeting of Council will be April 15, 2011. Meeting was adjourned at 2:42pm.