Graduate Council Minutes
August 12, 2009

Council Members Present:

Dr. Lowell Caneday, Vice-Chair
Dr. Barbara Stoecker, Group I
Dr. Allen Scott, Group II
Dr. Merrall Price, Group II
Dr. Rob Whiteley, Group III
Dr. Shelia Kennison, Group IV
Dr. Xiang Fang, Group IV
Dr. Tanya Finchum, Group IV
Dr. Kathleen Kelsey, Group V
Dr. Jennifer Sanders, Group V
Dr. Lin Liu, Group VI
Dr. Myron Hinsdale, Group VI
Mr. Aravind Seshadri, GPSGA

Graduate College:

Dr. Gordon Emslie
Dr. Mark Payton
Dr. Craig Satterfield

Approval April 17, 2009 minutes

Following a motion (Scott) and second (Stoecker), the April 17, 2009 minutes of the Graduate Council were approved with one abstention.

Introduction of Members

New Council members Xiang Fang and Tanya Finchum (Group IV) and Jennifer Sanders (Group V) were introduced to the Council.

GPSGA Report

Mr. Seshadri reported that the GPSGA Fall Welcome Reception would take place on August 19 in the Student Union Ballroom, from 4-6 p.m. He also reported that the Executive Committee wants to publicize more services available to graduate students and to increase the budget for student travel to professional conferences through an adjustment in the activity fee distribution structure. In collaboration with their counterpart organizations at OU and TU, they are also organizing an awareness campaign at the federal level for more funding for graduate education.
Graduate College Report

- Dr. Emslie reported formally that the new Graduate Faculty Bylaws had passed a vote of the graduate faculty by the required two-thirds majority, and had therefore become effective May 2009.

- Graduate enrollment for the Fall appears to again be up significantly. Preliminary numbers suggest an 8% increase.

- The Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) policy considered by Council over the Spring semester has been approved, and will have P&P number 4-0201. The final policy also encourages faculty members to complete the online module.

- The “G” sections for “hybrid” 3000 and 4000-level courses approved for both undergraduate and graduate credit will go into effect Fall 2010. The Registrar has prepared a set of FAQ for departments to help them schedule course sections for that semester, and the State Regents have recently requested a list of such courses from us with a view to correctly incorporating them into the tuition structure.

- Dr. Payton reported that the online Plan of Study application is making steady progress. While paper POSs will still be needed for committee signature verification, the new electronic application should reduce many common errors.

- In response to the increasing number of international students based at OSU-Tulsa, a section of ENGL 0003 will be offered there this Fall.

- Academic program review. The Dean reported that he had met with representatives from all the groups over the summer, and had delivered a final draft of the reviews, incorporating Council comments, to the Office of the Provost. The upcoming year will see a large number of programs undergoing five-year review, and they will be the first set of programs to be reviewed by Graduate Council for the second time.

New Business

- Dr. Caneday reported the results of an e-mail ballot, conducted over the summer break, to recommend deletion of the Certificate in Alternative Negotiation and Dispute Resolution. The motion had passed by nine votes to zero.

- The Council considered a recommendation from the Academic Program Committee to delete several Options within the MA in Political Science. While it was reported that these Options were never used, Scott moved, and Price seconded, a motion that the request be tabled, pending the introduction by the requesting department of revised language suggested by the APC. The motion carried unanimously.

- Graduate Course Syllabus Requirement. There is currently no requirement for all courses to have syllabus. The strong sense of the Council was that a syllabus be required for all courses eligible for graduate credit (possibly excluding thesis and dissertation credits). Scott moved, seconded by Kelsey, that the Graduate College prepare a strawman proposal along these lines for the Graduate Council to consider at its next meeting. The motion carried unanimously.
- **Revisions to Group Bylaws.** Dr. Caneday distributed a document outlining the changes necessary to bring all Group Bylaws into compliance with the Graduate Faculty Bylaws. There was some discussion concerning the power of a group to define the academic units that comprise it (§3.2.4), and it was pointed out that such actions would have to be ratified by the Graduate Council (§3.1.5). Dr. Caneday agreed to distribute suggested language aligning the membership renewal process (§2.4.1.1) with the faculty cumulative review process.

**Old Business**

- None

**Other –**

- Dr. Emslie requested that the Council establish the names of officers to form the Graduate Council representation on the honorary degrees committee. Officers Barbara Stoecker (Group I), Merrall Price (Group II), Rob Whiteley (Group III), Shelia Kennison (Group IV), Kathleen Kelsey (Group V) and Lin Liu (Group VI) were appointed.

- Dr. Whiteley recommended that to facilitate discussion of issues amongst the group memberships, the Graduate Council follow the Faculty Council model of distributing draft (unapproved) minutes to graduate faculty as soon as practicable after the Council meeting. The Graduate College agreed to explore ways of doing this, using the e-mail database.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.