Graduate Council Minutes
November 19, 2010

Council Members Present:
- Dr. Lowell Caneday, Vice-Chair
- Dr. William McGlynn, Group I
- Dr. Merrall Price, Group II
- Dr. Eric Reitan, Group II
- Dr. Rob Whiteley, Group III
- Dr. Lan Zhu, Group III
- Dr. Marlys Mason, Group IV
- Dr. Karina Shreffler, Group IV
- Dr. Tim Passmore, Group V
- Dr. Greg Sawyer, Group VI
- Dr. Pamela Lloyd, Group VI
- Dr. Craig Stevens, Group VI

Graduate College:
- Dr. Mark Payton
- Dr. Craig Satterfield
- Mr. Richard Shepard

Guests:
- Dr. Mark Weiser
- Dr. Ramesh Sharda
- Dr. Larry Crosby
- Dr. Danielle Bellmer

Dr. Caneday called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

Approval of October 15, 2010 minutes.

Following a motion (Passmore) and a second (Whiteley), the minutes of the October 15, 2010 meeting were approved with one spelling correction.

GPSGA report.

No representative from GPSGA was present. Payton noted that GPSGA, along with the Graduate College, is wrestling with a couple of financial issues. Otherwise, there were no pressing issues before GPSGA at this time. Payton noted that the President Joe Simpson is teaching on Friday afternoons, but obviously a substitute has not been secured. Payton will try to get better GPSGA representation in the Spring semester.

New Program Requests/Changes
Suspension of Family Financial Planning Certificate. A representative from the College of Human Environmental Sciences was invited to the Council meeting, but this representative was not able to attend. There is no enrollment in this certificate program presently. Payton noted that suspension would allow the faculty to evaluate the certificate program and make possible changes. Motion to approve suspension was made by Whiteley, seconded by Price. Motion passed unanimously.

Certificate in Biobased Products & Bioenergy. Dr. Dani Bellmer gave a brief synopsis. This certificate was developed through a grant from USDA. A consortium (AG-IDEA) exists involving Kansas State University, South Dakota State University, the University of Arkansas, and Oklahoma State University. This is a 15-hour on-line program, a quarter of which originates from OSU. All of the courses, regardless of where they originate, have OSU courses associated with them and OSU students in the program would be enrolled under the OSU course numbers. The course action forms associated with this program have been submitted and approved. Tuition is substantially higher and OSU gets a portion of it, the consortium gets the rest. The issue of graduate faculty status for the faculty associated with this consortium was raised. Dr. Bellmer replied that it is assumed that faculty at the other institutions within the consortium would have graduate faculty status at their respective universities. A motion to approve the certificate was made by Whiteley, seconded by McGlynn. The motion passed unanimously.

PhD in Business Administration Option in Executive Research. Dean Larry Crosby (Spears School of Business), Dr. Ramesh Sharda, and Dr. Mark Weiser were present to speak for this program change request. Dr. Crosby remarked that this program is a response to developments and opportunities in the market place. There is an increasing interest in business, industry and government to apply advanced principles that are taught in advanced business programs. Individuals working in corporate leadership positions who want to further their education beyond their master’s degrees comprise the clientele for this program. It has been organized as an “executive program,” with a combination of face-to-face and distance learning, and meeting courses in different locations, including airports and some international locales. The cost to the students in this option will be approximately $40,000 per year for a 3 year program. Some of the revenue generated by this option will be used to help fund the other PhD options in business. Dr. Sharda noted that the existing PhD programs will also benefit by having access to data generated from the corporate sector. The teaching associated with the curriculum will be done on an overload basis. They will provide faculty extra compensation to teach on Saturday or Sunday or nights, etc. It is estimated that they will have 20 students for each cohort. OSU will be the first to offer this program in the Big 12 or central time zone. The admission into this option will be restricted to only executives. Dean Crosby maintains that the Spears School of Business has the capacity to support this program, but the School will periodically re-evaluate its capacity once the program is established. It was questioned whether the acceptance of this option would be perceived as “buying a degree.” Dr. Sharda assured Council that this degree would be just as rigorous, if not more so, than the other PhD options currently available. After extensive discussion, Reitan moved approval, seconded by Price, subject to the correction of some grammatical edits. Motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business

There was no old business.
New Business

Graduate Faculty Nominations. William McGlynn reported for the Membership Committee. The Committee voted to support the recommendations from each of the Groups. McGlynn moved final approval, on behalf of the committee, with Mason providing the second. Motion to ratify Group decisions regarding Graduate Faculty status was unanimously approved. On the topic of Graduate Faculty nominations, Whiteley commented that the current state of the GF-1 form was inadequate to fully evaluate nominations in Group III, in particular for those nominees who did not have an OSU appointment. Payton reminded Council that the GF-1 form was Council’s form and they are free to modify it as needed. It was suggested that the Membership Committee evaluate and modify the form to better meet the needs of the Groups.

Dr. Caneday noted that the next scheduled meeting of Council was slated to be December 17, which is the same day as Commencement. Caneday suggested that the meeting be moved up a week to December 10. Council agreed to this change. Payton noted that it is likely that we would have no business since the time between meetings is only three weeks, including the Thanksgiving holiday. There are no new programs currently in the pipeline. The Graduate College will contact Council when December 10 approaches.

Graduate College Report

Payton reported that Aaron Christensen, the Graduate College liaison at OSU-Tulsa, has been appointed to the position of Director of the Graduate Student Services Center. The Graduate College and OSU-Tulsa will split the funding of this position. Payton stated that he perceives this as an improvement in the reporting structure as far as the Graduate College is concerned. OSU-Tulsa provided an enrollment report for Spring, and their graduate enrollment is up 38%. The OSU-Tulsa undergraduate enrollment is down 3-4%.

Payton reminded Council that he requested feedback regarding the possible resident tuition 9/9/0 waiver change from the current 6/6/3 model. He has received some feedback already, and the results are mixed. This proposal is primarily driven from an administrative standpoint, as summer waivers are difficult to apply due to the strange nature of employment and enrollment that occurs in summer sessions. Group V has surveyed its membership, and while some within that group are in favor of the change, many are not. Whiteley remembered that GPSGA aggressively advocated the 3 hours of summer when it was proposed a couple of years ago. Payton acknowledged that GPSGA must be consulted if this proposal gets far enough to warrant serious consideration. Payton stressed that this is just a proposal, and even if the Graduate Faculty strongly supported this change, the current financial situation at the University might not facilitate the change. But he didn’t want to pursue anything that the Faculty didn’t support.

Other Business

Dr. Passmore expressed concern that out-of-state faculty in the newly approved certificate program should be approved for affiliate status to the OSU Graduate Faculty. Payton assured
Council that this program was created with the AG-IDEA consortium and it involves suitably qualified faculty in other universities. Satterfield agreed to check the MOU for the Great Plains IDEA for their requirements regarding graduate faculty at other institutions.

Meeting adjourned 3:02 pm