

**Minutes**  
**Commission on Graduate Studies & Policies**  
**March 16, 2011**  
**3:30 pm – 5:00 pm**  
**Graduate School Conference Room**

Present: Ms. Kim Carlson, Dr. Carolyn Copenheaver, Dr. Karen DePauw, Dr. William Ducker, Dr. Mark Halsey, Dr. Karen Hult, Dr. Kumar Mallikarjunan, Dr. Tom Martin, Mr. Jonathan Moore, Dr. Aaron Purcell, Dr. Victoria Soghomonian, Ms. Hannah Parks, Mr. Eric Williams, Ms. Keyana Ellis, Dr. Kerry Redican, Dr. Larry French (NoVA)

Absent with Notification:

Absent without Notification: Dr. Tom Caceci, Dr. Sam Hicks, Dr. Jennie Hodgson, Dr. Susan Short, Dr. Paul Metz, Dr. Patrick Miller

Visitors and Invited Guests: Dr. Janet Rankin, Ms. Jacqueline Nottingham,

Dr. Carolyn Copenheaver, Chair, called the meeting to order.

**Approval of the agenda:** Approved.

**Approval of the minutes from March 2, 2011:** Approved.

**Committee Reports**

Graduate Curriculum Committee (GCC): The minutes from February 24, 2011 were approved.

Graduate Student Appeals: No report.

Graduate Student Relations (GSR): A discussion of the expectations document occurred which is the one entitled Revised Expectations for Graduate Study. Dean DePauw summarized the document. What we have before us is a revised draft of the expectations document which deals with mentoring and the appeals process. Dr. Halsey also explained some of the revisions. The Chair, Dr. Copenheaver, asked the committee what should be done with this document. The item from DRSCAP is policy so it will go through separately from this one. Does the expectation document stand alone or is it policy? Please look at this document and send Dean DePauw your edits before the next meeting. We will discuss it next time.

DRSCAP: 1. Academic and Professional Integrity. This passed on a second reading. This document will have to be re-written in resolution form and then sent to University Council where it will have to be voted on as a policy change.

2. Changes in the Graduate Catalog. The changes to the graduate catalog regarding the exam format – specifically with respect to a proxy—where sent back to DRSCAP for continued word-smithing. When this comes back in a revised format, we will send it to the Graduate School and recommend that they change the catalog to match our suggestions – this does not represent a policy change and therefore will not be sent to University Council.

Other Reports

Graduate Student Assembly Report (GSA)

Mr. Jonathan Moore reported that there has not been much activity. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> set of elections will be held tomorrow which will enable us to get the whole committee in place. The Graduate Research Symposium is next week. Please come by and listen. The research will amaze you.

Graduate Honor System (GHS): No report.

University Library Committee (ULC): The new Dean was to come today, but had another meeting that conflicted. He will be here next time.

University Council: Our Veterinary Medicine issue passed.

**Old Business:**

1. Bill Knocke (who met with us last time) wants us to look at his subject (host commissions) during the next meeting.
2. Elections ~ Names for a new chair and a vice chair must be turned in by April 11<sup>th</sup>. This means that at our next meeting, we must have elected these officials. Ask yourself if you are continuing in your current capacity. This information can be found on the website. If you are eligible, Copenheaver will be talking to you.

**New Business:**

- Second reading ~ Dr. Robin Panneton brought up the issue of having two reads. Did this practice evolve or is it constitutional? Dean DePauw said it evolved. Dean DePauw said it is important to have a lively academic discussion on these important matters before items go to University Council. However, if we could give up the required 2<sup>nd</sup> read, things would move faster, said Panneton. A discussion occurred about CGS&P's procedures. The procedures should be listed on the website, but they are not at this time.

**Announcements:** DRSCAP needs to meet with Dean DePauw right after this meeting. In addition, Ms. Keyana Ellis announced that there is a graduate student who is in Russia now who just defended before she left to go overseas. She also participated in DRSCAP while in Russia. Dean DePauw also announced that Dr. Clayborne Carson will speak April 5, 2011, 7pm in Squires. His talk is entitled "From Gandhi, to Dr. King, to VT."

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

*Respectfully submitted:*

Ms. Mary Madis, on behalf of  
Dr. Karen P. DePauw, Vice President and Dean for Graduate Education