

Minutes

Commission on Graduate Studies & Policies

November 3, 2010

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Graduate School Conference Room

Present: Ms. Kim Carlson, Dr. Carolyn Copenheaver, Dr. Karen DePauw, Ms. Rebecca French for Ms. Keyana Ellis, Dr. Mark Halsey, Dr. Sam Hicks, Dr. Eileen Hitchingham, Dr. Jennifer Hodgson, Dr. Karen Hult, Dr. Kumar Mallikarjunan, Dr. Tom Martin, Ms. Katie McKee, Dr. Robert Schubert for Dr. Patrick Miller, Mr. Jonathan Moore, Dr. Kerry Redican, Dr. Susan Short, Dr. Victoria Soghomonian, Ms. Hannah Parks, Dr. Robin Panneton, Mr. Eric Williams

Absent with Notification: Dr. Tom Grizzard, Dr. Aaron Purcell

Absent without Notification: Dr. Tom Caceci, Dr. Cheng Lu

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

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

Approval of the agenda: Approved.

Approval of the minutes from October 20, 2010: Approved.

Committee Reports

Graduate Curriculum Committee (GCC): Minutes from October 14 were approved. Dr. Panneton and Dr. DePauw will develop a workflow for certificate approval.

Graduate Student Appeals: No report.

Graduate Student Relations (GSR): No report.

DRSCAP: No report.

Other Reports

Graduate Student Assembly (GSA):

- Had delegate cabinet meeting
- Fees committee had forum. The committee is still working with the administration to discuss possible solutions.
- Health insurance committee looking at new provider options
- A new health advisory group is discussing ways to unite Schiffert and Cook Counseling.
- Child Care Committee had a luncheon and developed goals and a timeline.
- Transportation & Parking Committee is working with the SGA. They are examining the issue of sustainability and seemingly contradictory practices. The groups would like more bike racks on campus. There was some concern expressed about selective “edits” on minutes.

Graduate Honor System (GHS): No report.

University Library Committee (ULC): Dr. Hitchingham reported that the committee had met and discussed (1) collection management and (2) a new product to be introduced called “Summon™”, a web-search tool.. Minutes from the September 24th meeting will be on the November 17th agenda.

University Council: At the November 1st meeting Dr. Redican presented the discontinued degrees for a first reading.

Update on Interdisciplinary Graduate Education: Dr. Karen DePauw

Dr. DePauw announced that she had sent out the initial call-for-proposals for the new Interdisciplinary Graduate Education Programs. She reiterated that this is part of the university’s strategic plan to encourage and promote more interdisciplinary graduate education initiatives. The provost has provided some funds to help get the program started. Dr. DePauw noted that additional resources will be needed from the provost to fully implement the program. Within three years, the plan is to have 10 new disciplinary programs. This year’s awards, due to the restricted timeline, will favor faculty groups who have already been working on developing interdisciplinary programs. Faculty will be notified by late January so that programs can begin enrolling students. This spring, a second round of proposals will be solicited for a fall start date. Interdisciplinary proposals selected for fall will be-announced by late January so that faculty have time to recruit students to the programs. There is work in process on full credit accounting for courses team-taught or taken across disciplines.

Some concerns were expressed about accurately counting student enrollment as well as assigning credit value for courses as well as employability of graduates. Ms. French described her need for an interdisciplinary background in order to pursue her career goals.

Part of the funding plan is to reallocate some of the PHD2010s to interdisciplinary programs. Dr. DePauw feels the impact of reassigning PhD 2010s on colleges will be minimal. It is likely that faculty will recruit both new and existing students into the programs.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Dr. Copenheaver reminded commission members that the last day to post agenda items is the Friday before the next scheduled meeting.

Dr. Copenheaver led a discussion on graduate level statistic courses. The issue has been assigned to DRSCAP and they will report on their findings at a future meeting.

Announcements:

Commission member were invited to the GLC 5th anniversary celebration on November 5th.

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

Respectfully submitted:

Ms. Nancy B. Feuerbach, on behalf of

Dr. Karen P. DePauw, Vice President and Dean for Graduate Education