

**Minutes**  
**Commission on Graduate Studies & Policies**  
**March 5, 2014**  
**3:30 pm – 5:00 pm**  
**Graduate School Conference Room**

Present: Dr. Chad Bolding, Mr. Jordon Booker, Ms. Nancy Dudek, Ms. Kara Dietz, Ms. Samantha Erwin, Dr. Kay Dunkley via phone, Dr. Joe Eifert, Dr. Saul Halfon, Dr. Bernice Hausman, Dr. James Jones, Dr. Mayuresh Patil, Mr. Greg Purdy, Dr. Gary Seidel, Dr. Elankumaran Subbiah, Dr. Christopher Zobel

Absent with Notification: Mr. Matt Banfield, Dr. Cyril Clarke, Dr. Karen DePauw, Dr. Alireza Haghghat, Ms. Sally Wieringa

Absent without Notification: Dr. Rachel Holloway, Dr. Hans Robinson, Dr. Tyler Walters

Visitors and Invited Guests: Ms. Janice Austin, Dr. Muhammad Hajj

Dr. Joe Eifert, Chair, called the meeting to order.

**Approval of the agenda:** Approved.

**Approval of the minutes from February 19, 2014:** Approved with minor corrections.

**Committee Reports**

Graduate Curriculum Committee (GCC)

Dr. Subbiah reviewed the minutes from February 27, 2014. The commission voted to accept the minutes for filing.

Graduate Student Appeals

The committee has finished with their one remaining case.

Degree Requirements, Standards, Criteria, and Academic Progress (DRSCAP): No report.

**Constituencies Updates**

Graduate Student Assembly (GSA)

Mr. Greg Purdy reported:

- A treasurer and vice president for membership were elected at the last delegate meeting.
- Topics at the delegate meeting included health insurance. An online survey has been created to gauge response to four options proposed by the health insurance office.
- More information is being gather on dental insurance option since it was not offered this year.
- There will be a health insurance forum on March 24.
- The judge form and abstract review form for the Research symposium are online
- The Graduate Research and Development Program (GRPD) submissions open on March 24 and close on April 1.
- The Travel Fund Program (TFP) will open on March 10 and remain open for three weeks [close on the 30<sup>th</sup>] since it was not offered in the fall.

Graduate Honor System (GHS)

Mr. Booker reported that the GHS still has four cases open but they are working towards a resolution. One new case was received and the investigation phase is underway. GHS is working on transitioning roles for next year.

University Library Committee: No report.

Ms. Dietz fielded some general questions about the library. She will research answers to some of the questions and respond electronically.

### **University Council and Commission Updates**

University Council: At the February 17 meeting the council approved Master of Arts Degree in Women's and Gender Studies and the Bachelor of Science Degree in Computational Modeling and Data Analytics.

Commission on Outreach and International Affairs: Dr. Subbiah reported that at the last meeting it was reported that UCIA had presented a resolution to University Council regarding undergraduate graduation and degree conferral. Another resolution was presented regarding a voluntary health disclosure form for education abroad participants. The Alumni Award for Outreach Excellence process was described. The Virginia Science Festival will take place in Blacksburg and Roanoke on March 28, 2014.

### **Graduate School Updates**

None

### **Old Business.**

None

### **New Business**

Dr. Eifert reminded the commission that it was time to begin thinking about a chair and vice chair for next year.

### **Announcements**

None

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 pm.

*Respectfully submitted:*

Ms. Nancy Feuerbach, on behalf of

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