

Minutes
Commission on Graduate Studies & Policies
December 5, 2012
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Graduate School Conference Room

Present: Ms. Shaimaa Abdallah, Mr. Mehmet Altin, Dr. Chad Bolding, Mr. Marc Brodsky, Dr. Alan Brown for Dr. Wayne Neu, Ms. Nancy Dudek, Dr. Kay Dunkley, Dr. Joe Eifert, Dr. Alireza Haghghat via video sound, Dr. Jennifer Hodgson for Dr. Gerhardt Shurig, Dr. Karen Hult, Dr. Brian Cook for Dr. Patrick Miller, Dr. Mayuresh Patil, Mr. Greg Purdy, Dr. Gene Seago, Dr. Victoria Soghomonian, Dr. Dan Thorp

Absent with Notification: Ms. Janice Austin, Mr. Jordon Booker, Dr. Karen DePauw, Dr. Stephen Smith

Absent without Notification: None

Visitors and Invited Guests: Ms. Ennis McCrery

Dr. Mayuresh Patil, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Approval of the agenda: Approved.

Approval of the minutes from November 7, 2012: Approved.

Committee Reports

Graduate Curriculum Committee (GCC): The commission approved the minutes from November 8, 2012.

Graduate Student Appeals: Two appeals have been referred to Dr. DePauw with the committee's recommendations. A third appeal is still being considered by the appeals committee.

Graduate Student Relations (GSR): No report

Degree Requirements, Standards, Criteria, and Academic Progress (DRSCAP):

Dr. Soghomonian asked that comments be e-mailed to her before a final version of an academic & professional integrity policy is presented to the commission. She outlined the committee's recommendation for ProQuest.

Graduate Student Assembly:

Ms. Shaimaa Abdallah reported that the GSA TFP and GRDP funding awards have been announced and the winners' names are posted on the GSA website.

1. Total amount of money to be given this year: \$24,750
2. Total number of applications submitted: over 100 applications
3. 66 graduate students have been awarded TFP awards

GRDP funding Award:

1. Total amount of money to be given this year: \$16,300
2. Total Number of applications submitted: over 50 applications
3. 28 graduate students have been awarded TFP awards

Graduate Honor System: No report.

University Library Committee: Work is continuing on evaluating the plans for the second floor of the library focusing on usability. Today, the VT & UVA libraries hosted “data management boot camp” for graduate students.

University Council: The term “special” was removed from “Special Research Faculty.”

State of the Graduate School: No report.

Old Business: Second Reading of the Individual Interdisciplinary Doctoral Degree
The commission discussed a variety of concerns including impact on resources, demand, implementation, student support, and the recommendation that an advisory committee put together a handbook. The commission voted to approve the degree proposal.

New Business: Progress Report, Promising Practices Regarding Climate: Ennis McCrery and Greg Purdy
The goal of this initiative is to create a forum for highlighting promising practices in graduate advising, including the creation of an online toolbox for faculty, departments, and students who are interested in learning new strategies for fostering the advising relationship. These resources will build upon the collaborative framework already laid by the Expectations for Graduate Education website and will be developed in partnership with CGS&P, as well as graduate students, faculty, and staff throughout the university.

Announcements: None.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm

Respectfully submitted:

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