

## **MINUTES**

### **Commission on Graduate Studies & Policies**

**October 5, 2016**

**3:30 pm – 5:00 pm**

**Graduate School Conference Room**

**Present:** Dr. Sally Paulson (Chair), Dr. Lujean Baab, Dr. Rajesh Bagchi, Dr. Sudip Bhattacharjee, Dr. Nancy Bodenhorn, Ms. Chelsea Corkins, Dr. Kay Dunkley, Dr. Kevin Edgar, Dr. Charlene Eska, Dr. Rachel Holloway (ex officio), Dr. William Huckle, Mr. Timothy Kinoshita, Dr. Kathy Lu, Ms. Stefanie Metko (for Dr. Zhiwu Xie), Mr. Brett Netto, Ms. Tara Reel, Ms. Kim Robbins, Dr. Scott Salom, Ms. Libbie Sonnier-Netto, and Dr. Ying Zhou.

**Absent with Notification:** Dr. Karen DePauw (ex officio), Ms. Erin Lavender-Stott, Dr. Annie Pearce, Dr. Robert Sumichrast, and Dr. Tyler Walters (ex officio).

**Absent without Notification:**

**Visitors and Invited Guests:** Ms. Janice Austin, Dr. Muhammed Hajj, Dr. Benjamin Tracy, and Ms. Katryn Stewart.

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Paulson at 3:30 p.m.

### **Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved as presented.

### **Approval of the Minutes from September 21, 2016**

The minutes were approved as amended.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Graduate Curriculum Committee**

The committee reviewed proposals as referenced in the presented committee report. The minutes were accepted by the Commission.

#### **Graduate Student Appeals Committee**

There was no report.

#### **Degree Requirements, Standards, Criteria, and Academic Progress (DRSCAP) Committee**

Dr. Huckle provided an updated on DRSCAP's first meeting and plans for the upcoming year.

### **Constituency Updates**

#### **Graduate Student Assembly (GSA)**

Mr. Netto reported the first delegate meeting was held with 90 representatives attending. He is still seeking a representative for staff policies. Ms. Corkins reported that graduate students have been invited to northern Virginia to participate in an event in Tysons, VA.

#### Graduate Honor System (GHS)

Ms. Lavender-Stott had no report.

#### University Library Committee

Ms. Metko had no report.

#### Faculty Senate

Dr. Salom reported the Faculty Senate met yesterday. There was a discussion about the integration of School of Medicine faculty with our faculty. The Dean of the School of Medicine gave a presentation. There were no topics of significance to CGS&P.

#### Student Government Association (SGA)

Ms. Robbins reported funding is being provided for a plaque for the Pylons for Virginia Tech alumni receiving the Medal of Honor in cooperation with the Corps of Cadets. Students do not have access to the benefits of campus life when the Hokie Passport Office is not available on weekends in the Student Services Building. Options are being considered.

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

Dr. Paulson attended the University Council meeting this past Monday. The second readings of our two resolutions approved last spring were approved. The first readings of the two new degrees presented at the last CGS&P meeting were given.

There were no other commission updates.

#### **Graduate School Update**

There was no update.

#### **Old Business**

There was no old business.

#### **New Business**

A resolution was reviewed on the procedure for the renaming of departments. A resolution has recently been approved by CUSP. There is no direct impact on actions needed by the Graduate School.

The Resolution for the Establishment of a School of Plant and Environmental Sciences at Virginia Tech was presented as a first reading. The proposal and comments will be provided for the second reading at the next meeting. Supplemental material will be provided for additional review. Ms. King will send the resolution to the Faculty Senate for review.

**Announcements**

There were no announcements.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Marilynn R. King  
on behalf of Karen P. DePauw, Ph.D.  
Vice President and Dean for Graduate Education