

MEETING OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
September 6, 2007

Members and Administrative Officers Present:

Marcia Anderson, Thomas Britton, Ronald Browning, David Carlson, Brad Colwell, Daniel Dyer, Ann Fletcher, Scott Gilbert, Ramesh Gupta, Eric Hellgren, Andrew Hofling, Scott Ishman, Maryon King, Elizabeth Klaver, John Koropchak (ex-officio), Jack Kremers, Pat Manfredi, Scott McClurg, Shelly McGrath, Christian Moe, Manoj Mohangy, Jyotika Ramaprasad, Karen Renzaglia, Don Rice (ex-officio), Prudence Rice (Office of VCR), Peggy Stockdale, Spyros Tragoudas, Fernando Treviño, Karl Williard, David Wilson, and Michael Young.

Absent: John Mead, Donna Post, John Preece, Jonathan Remo, and Bennett Whitaker.

Proxies: Dean Wilson announced there were no proxies.

Prof. Tragoudas called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. in the Kaskaskia/Missouri Rooms of the Student Center and welcomed members. Council members were asked to introduce themselves.

1. Consideration of the minutes of May, 2007 Graduate Council Meeting

A motion was made and seconded to approve the first set of minutes for the May 2007 Graduate Council meeting. The second set of minutes for the May 2007 Graduate Council meeting was then considered and approved as distributed.

2. Remarks—Chancellor Treviño

Chancellor Treviño reported the following enrollment figures: freshmen were up by 12%, transfer students up by 4%, and housing contracts were up by 9%. Credit hours are up as well as enrollment for under represented minorities and female students. The only decline was in off-campus programs enrollment on military bases. He praised and thanked the efforts of faculty, staff and students who worked to make this possible.

Prof. McClurg asked what the plans are for retention of the freshman class. Interim Provost Rice answered this question by stating he has asked each of the colleges to provide retention and recruitment plans. The Deans Council has discussed the plans and is reviewing each college's plans. He announced that Victoria Valle, the new Assistant Vice Chancellor for enrollment management, began her position on September 1, and he will work with her on these issues. A committee to review all aspects of undergraduate recruitment and retention has been formed and will be chaired by John Nicklow. A retreat or a Deans Council

will be held to review the current procedures that work and what needs to be amended to ensure the colleges are proactive in working toward retention of students.

3. Remarks – Interim Provost Rice

Professor Rice reported that the income fund is based on credit hour production and FTE and indicated that we are 1400 credit hours ahead of last year. Search committees have been created for the Dean of Mass Communication and Media Arts, Assistant Director and Director of Touch of Nature, and the Director of University Honors Program, all of which report to the Provost area.

4. Announcements—Vice Chancellor Koropchak, Associate Vice Chancellor Rice, and Associate Deans Wilson & Mead

Vice Chancellor Koropchak

Vice Chancellor Koropchak reminded everyone of the reception which will be at his house this afternoon beginning at 4:30 p.m. He stated the Graduate Council has a tradition of doing good work in a collegial manner in the best interest of the University and this is one way we can get together to learn a little more about each other.

Through work with the Illinois Association of Graduate Schools, the Governor has issued a proclamation designating the week of October 22 – 26 as graduate education week in the State of Illinois. Vice Chancellor Koropchak remarked that we may want to engage in activities in celebration of graduate education week.

Announced that the FY08 federal budget appears to have significant increases for research and development which will provide growing opportunities for our faculty to seek and attract resources from the federal government.

Graduate enrollment is up 75 students from 3099 to 4074 students. A graduate enrollment task force was formed last spring. They have been working on a variety of activities to further enhance recruitment, retention and the enrollment of graduate students. Five members were recently sent to a graduate recruiting workshop in Chicago.

Announced that he and Provost Rice have been working to increase the level of funds available for faculty travel for scholarly presentations.

Good News

- Larry Hickman won the National Phi Kappa Phi award. SIUC is the only university in the country to have two winners of that award in this

category. He will be awarded an honorary doctorate degree from the University of Cologne.

- MBA student, Cassie Bishop, of Mt. Carmel has won a Golden Key graduate scholar award which comes with a \$10,000 prize.
- Mass Communications student, Patricia Rutter, won the 32nd Paducah Summer Festival Photo Competition.
- Melinda Yeomans, a doctoral student in the Department of Speech Communications, and Kassie Chaffee, a doctoral student in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry in the College of Science, were awarded J. William Fulbright scholarships.
- Mashona Cole, a COBA doctoral student, has been awarded a \$10,000 KPMG Minority Doctoral scholarship.

Associate Vice Chancellor Rice

The Associate Vice Chancellor announced that grant and award levels are below last year for July and August. Workshops on faculty seed grants have been scheduled for new faculty through ORDA and information is available on the website.

The latest undergraduate newsletter was published in the last week of August and has been sent to all College Deans on campus.

ORDA is replacing two research project specialists that were lost in the last year. One was hired in the spring and they are in the process of hiring another this fall.

She announced that Vice Chancellor Koropchak and the Provost are working to increase the amount of travel funding available because in past years the funds have been fully allocated before spring semester. Awards are small-- from \$300 for domestic travel and \$400 for international. Funding must be research oriented to present research or scholarly findings, or piano recital, etc. Requests for travel must be requested prior to the date of travel. When asked about increased funding for graduate students travel, Vice Chancellor Koropchak responded it has been put on hold at this time since a contract is in negotiation; however travel for graduate students has been supported for quite some time.

Dean Wilson

The long awaited credit card payment of the application fee is now online. The Bursars office advised we should hold back \$5 on each transaction. If there are any excess dollars, it will be used for student travel support.

Matching funding is available for recruitment purposes to bring potential students to campus. Lu Lyons will be going to the Far East next month. We are also lining up the domestic fairs. This information is available on the Graduate

School website and if you see one that you might be interested in, please let us know. This activity has been viewed as a positive and valuable experience by those who have gone on recruitment trips.

Lori Vermeulen and I put together a RAMP proposal for an additional 40 assistantships to provide specialized training to a group of graduate assistants to assist with retention in selected core courses. The Center for Graduate Teaching Excellence supported to assist with retention in Chemistry 200; and my hope is we can expand these efforts to other courses and see if we can make some impact on retention.

A workshop for directors of graduate studies will be scheduled in the fall.

Negotiations are in process with Graduate Assistants United. We are making progress on the non economic issues in the contract. We have reached tentative agreements on a number of the articles.

There was a slight drop in new international graduate students and a slight drop in doctoral students, which was probably caused by budget issues. International masters students are up slightly. John Koropchak noted that even though the number of doctoral students has dropped, the number of continuing international students is up.

Dean Wilson reported that international recruitment trips are being scheduled for Bangkok, Thailand; Korea; and Taiwan. A recruiting trip to Shanghai and Beijing has already taken place. He also stated that faculty members who are traveling internationally are encouraged to contact him if they would like to also recruit during their trip.

5. Faculty Senate – Prof. Stockdale

Professor Stockdale announced she will be the Faculty Senate representative to the Graduate Professional Council this year. She announced they have elected officers and committee chairs and are just getting started.

The Welfare Committee will be considering a proposal to review faculty counter offers to ensure equity; the Governance Committee will observe faculty hiring procedures; and the Budget Committee will work to get more faculty involvement on the Chancellor's Budget Committee.

The Executive Council met on Tuesday and discussed the plagiarism charge against President Poshard.

6. Announcements – Prof. Tragoudas

Professor Tragoudas handed out the 2007-2008 graduate council standing committees as well as the graduate council membership list including email, department, mail code, and phone numbers. He indicated the information is incomplete at this time due to not having the names of representatives from the GPSC. Contact Dr. Wilson or Paulette Patterson with your names so that you can get on the meeting schedule. Connie Small maintains these pages electronically.

The Executive Committee of the Graduate Council has met and you will be hearing more from the Chairs of each committee with items on their agendas. We are all set to start working.

Professor Tragoudas stated that the agenda, resolutions and items for discussion will be on the Graduate Council website. Members were asked to inform themselves before attending meetings because no paper copies will be handed out at the meeting. You can go to the website and download copies of the agenda, resolutions, minutes and any other information prior to the meetings. If you cannot access these on line, contact Paulette Patterson at plpp@siu.edu and she will provide you with hard copies.

7. Nominations to Committees – Professor Colwell

Professor Colwell stated that nominations have been submitted for the Traffic and Parking Committee, MCMA Dean Search and University Outstanding Scholar Committees. You will be getting emails as the need arises. Professor Colwell thanked everyone for their service.

8. GPSC Report – Shelly McGrath

A welcome back party is being planned in the next few weeks. She also reported \$106,000 was taken from reserves this past summer and was reallocated to the undergraduate council. Due to budget issues, cuts were made to some campus events and travel funding was reduced from \$150 to \$125. An email has been sent to the college Deans to alert them that funding is available for students to travel for professional and scholarly activities.

9. Program Committee – Professor Hofling

Professor Hofling announced the program committee has met twice to consider a proposal for the establishment of a Center for Delta Studies and will have a resolution soon.

10. Research Committee – Professor Renzaglia

Professor Renzaglia stated the research committee met last week and is considering the following issues:

- Reviewing and revising the post doctoral fellowship guidelines.
- Looking at redistribution of indirect costs to PI's.
- Requesting tuition from agencies for Research Assistants whenever possible instead of having an automatic waiver of tuition.

She stated that the committee has nothing to report at this time and no resolutions.

Associate Vice Chancellor Rice clarified that it is up to each department to make the decision whether a portion of department's IDC will be distributed to the PI. However, Dr. Koropchak stated there is a proposal on the table for the School of Medicine which is currently being reviewed by the Chancellor. A copy of the School of Medicine proposal was sent to the Research Committee. In response to the question of how indirect costs were distributed, Dr. Koropchak stated that IDC is distributed as 31% to the Chancellor; 39% to the Vice Chancellor for Research and 30% goes to the college and department. Of that 30%, at least 10% is to go back to the department.

11. Program Review Committee – Prof. Anderson

Professor Anderson reported that appointments to the internal review team have been made. Tom Britton will be on the internal review team for the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders; Steve Esling (replacing Scott Ishman) will be on the internal review team for Radio and TV; Jack Kremers will be on the review team for WSIU, WUSI FM Broadcasting; Marcia Anderson will be on the team for Mass Communication and Media Arts; and Michael Young is appointed to the review team for the Master of Arts in Teaching. Professor Anderson stated each of the appointees will be receiving communication regarding the timeline for the evaluations. An orientation meeting was scheduled but was cancelled. She will notify the members of the new date and time.

12. Educational Policies Committee – Professor McClurg

Professor McClurg reported the committee has not set a time to meet at this time. The issues the committee will be working on this year will be how to implement the new plagiarism policy and criteria for applications for doctoral and masters fellowship.

13. Old Business

There was no old business.

14. New Business

Chancellor Treviño related what has transpired with the allegations of plagiarism regarding President Poshard. He explained that Chapter 2, the literary review, is the focus, due to lack of proper citation and stated there are no charges of falsifying data or research findings. He further stated he has had numerous discussions with Vice Chancellor Koropchak as to how to proceed. The Graduate Catalog gives two options if the student is willing to admit that there may be errors and is willing to face those and try to take corrective action. An informal review may be conducted whereby it is referred back to the faculty and they look at the dissertation and if they think it appropriate, they recommend certain changes that the student or graduate is given the option to correct and modify the dissertation and resubmit it. We also have precedent where the student has refused to do that and admit there is a problem. At that point it goes into a more formal mechanism as referenced in the Graduate Catalog.

Chancellor Treviño stated in this case, the President would like to have a group of faculty review the document; and if it is something that can be corrected, he would like to have an opportunity to do so. Chancellor Treviño explained that Dr. Colwell heads up the department from which Dr. Poshard graduated 20 years ago, but the department is much different today. Dr. Colwell met with his faculty, and they are reluctant to take this on because some of them are junior faculty. Chancellor Treviño stated that he and Provost Rice have been discussing the mechanism whereby the graduate dean could recommend three graduate faculty and two graduate students to form the committee. The problem is if anyone gets involved with choosing faculty, there may be accusations of “cherry picking.” The best solution would be to establish the committee from the elected officers of the three constituency groups -- Faculty Senate, Graduate Council and the Faculty Association. He further stated his recommendation to select faculty from these constituency groups is because these persons were elected by their colleagues to lead these organizations. He proposed convening a committee to review the document and the charges that have been brought and to recommend how the problem can be addressed, including Spyros Tragoudas from the Graduate Council, Morteza Daneshdoost from the Faculty Association, Marvin Zeman from the Faculty Association, David Worrells from the Faculty Senate, Ramanarayanan Viswanathan from the Faculty Senate, Peggy Stockdale from the Faculty Senate and Brad Colwell from the Graduate Council.

Dr. Koropchak read the procedures from the Graduate Catalog which states “The charges against a former student with regard to academic dishonesty in submission of a graduate degree requirement shall be handled to the extent feasible under the SIU Student Conduct Code.” He further stated that the Student Conduct Code does allow for the handling of these kinds of issues on an informal process, primarily by the department. Dr. Koropchak stated two cases of this nature have occurred during his time as Graduate Dean and others have occurred prior to his time as Graduate Dean, so there is precedence for this process.

Depending on the outcome of that process there are specific procedures in the Graduate Catalog to establish a hearing committee to investigate the charges. Our procedures allow for an informal process to take place to remedy this situation at that level. Discussion ensued about the process to ensure the academic integrity of the University and following the rules of the institution as stated in the Graduate Catalog. Tom Britton also stated that this process must be transparent and be completed as soon as possible.

After discussion, a motion was made by Scott McClurg to endorse the process suggested by Chancellor Treviño. Tom Britton made a friendly amendment to add: ".....in accordance with Graduate School policies."

Motion went forward as: *Motion to endorse the process suggested by Chancellor Treviño in accordance with Graduate School policies.* Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Dr. Treviño closed by stating this is a great challenge for us and the University and he hopes that by working together and with the wise counsel of the Graduate Council we can come to a process that maintains the integrity of the university.

There being no further business for discussion Professor Tragoudas asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Maryon King and seconded by Scott Gilbert. Professor Tragoudos adjourned the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Donna Reynolds
Recording Secretary