

MEETING OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
November 1, 2007

Members and Administrative Officers Present:

Marcia Anderson, Thomas Britton, Ronald Browning, David Carlson (ex-officio), Brad Colwell, Daniel Dyer, Steve Esling (for Scott Ishman), Ann Fletcher, Scott Gilbert, Ramesh Gupta, Eric Hellgren, Jason Hammond (GPSC), Andrew Hofling, Maryon King, Elizabeth Klaver, John Koropchak (ex-officio), Pat Manfredi, Scott McClurg, Shelly McGrath, Christian Moe, Manoj Mohanty, Donna Post, Jonathan Remo (GPSC), Karen Renzaglia, Don Rice (ex-officio), Prudence Rice (office of VCR), Peggy Stockdale, Spyros Tragoudas, Fernando Treviño (ex-officio), David Wilson, and Michael Young.

Absent: Jack Kremers, Janet Mayher, John Mead, Jyotika Ramaprasad, Bennett Whitaker, Karl Williard,

Guests: Jane Adams

Proxies: Dean Wilson announced there were no proxies.

Prof. Tragoudas called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. in the Kaskaskia/Missouri Rooms of the Student Center and welcomed members.

1. Consideration of the minutes of the October 4, 2007 Graduate Council Meeting

Prof. Dyer asked that his name be added as being present on October 4. Professor Hofling stated he misspoke and would like to make a clarification regarding Dr. Adams and the proposed Center for Delta Studies. He stated that money has been made available from Vice Chancellor Koropchak for summer salary and a ¼ time Graduate Assistant. The COLA Dean and the Chair of Anthropology have agreed upon a course release for Dr. Adams.

Minutes were approved as amended.

2. Remarks – Chancellor Treviño

Dr. Trevino announced that a request will be made to the Board of Trustees at their January meeting for authority to sell up to \$100 million in revenue bonds to pay for deferred maintenance on the SIUC campus. In response to Prof. McClurg's question regarding how the projects will be prioritized, Dr. Treviño stated Phil Gatton had the list. Don Rice clarified that Vice President Stucky has asked the Deans for a list of possible renovations or repairs that would affect their colleges. The Deans' list will be merged with Phil Gatton's list so that we can identify felt needs by the Faculty and Deans as well as Phil Gatton. AVC

Rice stated that she is a member of the Facilities Advisory Committee that meets to identify needed repairs on campus.

Prof. Young stated he is a member of the Classroom Upgrades Committee. The activity of the committee has been suspended since the first of the year. Prof. Young asked Provost Rice how Gatton's and the Dean's list interface with the classroom updates. Provost Rice responded he did not know how to answer the question but that he is meeting with Cathy Hagler and Phil Gatton to go over Gatton's list and he will remind them that the Classroom Upgrades Committee has its own list of priorities. VC Koropchak says there have been six years of investments into classroom upgrades primarily starting with the large lecture halls. The problem is that we are getting to the stage where we have to renew equipment in rooms that have already been upgraded. Some dollars will have to go to upgrades.

3. Remarks – Provost Rice

Provost Rice announced there will be a Board of Trustees meeting next week in Carbondale. There will be two discussions taking place that might be of interest to members of the Council. The Officers for Affirmative Action from the three campuses will be discussing the status of hiring women, diversification of faculty and the student body. Seymour Bryson will be representing the Carbondale Campus. There will also be a continuation of discussions between the Board and the Provosts from each campus on student recruitment and retention with a focus on retention.

Provost Rice announced that Dean William Osborne will step down as Dean of the College of Engineering effective January 4, 2008. In a meeting with Associate Dean John Nicklow and the Chairs of the College of Engineering, the Chairs made two recommendations with respect to an Interim Dean. Rather than a unilateral decision to appoint someone, they requested all full professors in the College be notified to solicit expressions of interest or nominations for the position of Interim Dean. A list of potential candidates will be formulated and forwarded to the faculty for a vote to determine who will be the Interim Dean. The College faculty felt that a search at this time would interfere with preparation for the ABET review in the fall. Their preference is to have an Interim Dean in place during the review rather than a new Dean, forming a search committee in late spring to begin the process. Advertisements will be published in August, and the Committee will begin its work in the fall. The goal is to select a Dean who will be in place by July 1, 2009.

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

Vice Chancellor Koropchak

VC Koropchak announced that the Graduate Enrollment Task Force that was formed late in the spring has been meeting monthly for the last six months to consider issues related to recruiting and diversity. The task force has reviewed best practices for recruiting and diversity and based on these efforts, the next step will be for programs to develop strategic plans for graduate enrollment. We will work with deans and directors of graduate studies to schedule meetings to move that forward.

A chart showing an analysis of the R&D expenditure data for SIU compared with the national data was distributed to the Graduate Council by VC Koropchak. The analysis shows campus and national data for total federal R&D expenditures and reflects the performance of our campus compared to the national trend. VC Koropchak pointed out that the slope of SIU data is significantly higher than the national data, which is a credit to our campus.

VC Koropchak thanked Chancellor Treviño for his commitment to enhance the faculty travel fund for this fiscal year. The Provost and the VCR have previously made commitments to enhance the fund as well. This is a great benefit for people in this room, our colleagues across campus and will allow more faculty to travel to professional venues. He hopes that these additional funds will allow travel through the end of the fiscal year.

Good News

Hilla Medalia's documentary "To Die in Jerusalem" will appear on HBO tonight. In addition to the release of that movie, there was an article in the *New York Times* about her documentary and she also appeared on Good Morning America this week. She mentioned SIUC fondly in both venues. Jack Crelling, an emeritus faculty recently won the Reinhardt Thiessen Medal from the International Committee for Coals and Organic Petrology. Max Yen of Materials Technology Center was awarded \$1,000,000 from the Federal Highway Department for a bridge monitoring project. The SIU School of Music Wind Ensemble has been invited to appear at Carnegie Hall in March.

Associate Vice Chancellor Rice

The Seed Grant Awards are due on the 12th; some workshops are being planned; and we have about 10 applications for open positions and will start going through those applications soon. AVC Rice stated that she has already allotted about 50% of the travel money and still has a file folder full of requests.

Dean Wilson

Nothing to Report

5. Faculty Senate – Peggy Stockdale

The Fall Faculty Meeting was held last week. The agenda was changed from discussing the faculty role in student retention, to the plagiarism issue. A panel discussion was held and it went very well.

Dr. Tragoudas announced, two weeks ago Vice President Haller invited all constituency heads to a meeting on October 24 to review the interim policies and procedures on plagiarism. The Executive Committee of the Graduate Council met on October 18th and discussed the issue. Prior to attending that meeting, Prof. McClurg, Chair of the Education Policies Committee discussed the issue with me. Dr. McClurg and I felt that the Graduate Council's recently revised procedures on plagiarism concerning graduate students are a reasonable approach. Of course, there is always room for refinement and further policies. I think there is some further action that will take place. The report on plagiarism policies developed by the Blue Ribbon Panel was released about a month ago and is posted on the Graduate Council website. The Blue Ribbon Panel consisted of faculty members from both campuses and Springfield. The plan is that further actions will take place to further refine this report to include policies at the Board and System Level. He believes that this report will be refined and finalized, and at some point, will be given to the Graduate Council for comments on matters that are related to our activity. VP Haller will discuss these issues with constituency heads from Edwardsville and Springfield and some refined version of the report will be given to the constituency groups on all campuses for feedback. There may be some policies that are not related to our activities, i.e., administrative and departmental aspects. The BOT would like to have policies and procedures in place as soon as possible. I expressed my concerns that educational policies cannot change that fast. It is very unlikely we would have time to provide feedback before March or April 2008.

AVC Rice asked if this will result in recommendations about how to handle plagiarism. If they are calling it research misconduct, it should also go to the Research Committee. Prof. Tragoudas said yes it would. Provost Rice stated the meeting to which Dr. Tragoudas was referring was a meeting that was held on this campus and on the Edwardsville campus, led by Jerry Blakemore and Vice President Haller for the purpose of getting feedback on whether we need an interim policy in place immediately. The motivation is a fear that there will be allegations against other individuals on either of the campuses and we would need to be able to deal with those in a more effective transparent way than some feel we did with student Poshard. In the end, both meetings suggested to the President's office that they not want an interim policy. We need to move quickly to make necessary changes to current policy because there are gaps in the due process. The plan is to expand the Blue Ribbon Panel that worked on the definition for plagiarism adding representation of students and alums to propose policy based on the panel report. Once that occurs, the draft will be vetted on both campuses. There may be disagreements among campuses and we will have to have a communication committee to iron out differences. Then, each campus,

because they are different in their administrative structure, will create their own procedures in support of the policies. Right now we are at the stage of augmenting the committee and it will probably be the end of the fall semester before the committee is in place. AVC Rice asked about the status of the Blue Ribbon report on the Edwardsville campus. Provost Rice stated it is his understanding it has not been widely distributed on the Edwardsville campus. He also stated he does not know if that has changed since the Blakemore and Haller meeting on the Edwardsville campus. Vice Chancellor Koropchak stated it was his impression in discussions with the graduate dean of Edwardsville that there was not a lot of discussion about the topic in general. Chancellor Treviño reported he thought it was on the Edwardsville website.

In response to a question regarding the policy on turnitin.com, Scott McClurg stated the committee met on Tuesday to discuss how to implement the policy effectively. Prof. McClurg stated they are exploring the potential of procedures whereby students can have access to turnitin.com prior to turning in their theses/dissertations. Workshops will be scheduled but there is no timeline. Prof. Tragoudas pointed out that turnitin.com is just one of the many software tools available and perhaps the policy will be broad enough to accommodate the use of other tools. McClurg stated that the resolution references turnitin.com but there are no restrictions on what software a student uses. The other issue is that turnitin.com does not check mathematical equations, graphs or tables. It is primarily a textual base tool and we will address these things in the workshops and encourage faculty to get more competence in the use of the software.

7. Nominations to Committees – Professor Colwell

Professor Colwell stated he was recently notified that the nominee to serve on the MCMA dean search committee can no longer serve. He asked if anyone is willing to volunteer to serve immediately on the MCMA dean search committee to email him in the next few days and he will forward your name to the Provost.

8. GPSC Report – Shelly McGrath

Ms. McGrath stated she had nothing to report at this time. In response to Prof. Colwell's question concerning a possible resolution on the plagiarism issue, Ms McGrath stated GPSC President is writing a resolution indicating that the plagiarism process was followed properly and she expected the resolution to be voted on at next Tuesday's meeting.

9. Report of Programs Committee – Professor Hofling

Professor Hofling read the resolution.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESOLUTION

RATIONALE: It has been proposed that a Center for Delta Studies be established in the Graduate School with the purpose of building linkages among scholars in the SIU system, scholars in universities encompassed by the Delta Regional Authority and the general public. The mission is to promote interdisciplinary research that will contribute to innovative solutions to the problems of poverty and associated human and ecological issues in the region. This is consistent with SIUC's mission and the Center is supported by the deans of all colleges on campus. Money has been made available for an initial period of three years.

RESOLUTION: Be it resolved that the Graduate Council approves the establishment of a Center for Delta Studies in the Graduate School.

Motion on the floor from the Committee; motion passed unanimously.

10. Report of Research Committee – Professor Renzaglia

Prof. Renzaglia had nothing to report.

11. Report of Program Review Committee – Professor Anderson

The program review committees are ongoing at this time.

12. Report of Educational Policies Committee – Professor McClurg

Professor McClurg reported it has been brought to his attention by Susan Ford from Anthropology that students have their email access withdrawn three months after graduation in the spring and 5 months after graduation in the fall. This causes a problem when students go on approved leave and are not registered in 601 for one credit, their email account is eliminated. Prof. McClurg stated we are looking into the problem. The initial thought was to ask IT to put off cancelling a student's email access for 12 months. Vice Chancellor Koropchak stated he mentioned this to Vice Chancellor McCurry in Institutional Advancement. At other institutions, including public ones, when someone graduates they are given a new email address denoting they are alumni, such as sialumni.edu. This is valuable because it gives access to an email account and helps the university keep track of their alumni. Vice Chancellor McCurry is very supportive of the idea. Professor McClurg said the reason the email accounts are eliminated so quickly is because it is a state law that you cannot spend resources on people that are not actually enrolled. We are contacting the SIU Alumni Association to see if they are interested in this. We may also want to have the President's office to discuss this with the IBHE. In response to Tom Britton's question as to the reality of a specific law that says we cannot provide email access to former students, Prof. McClurg stated that the general rule in the Illinois Constitution is you can't spend state money on non-state business. Britton indicated if we view this as a benefit to the University, then there is no reason to

not do it. It would be like advertising – you spend the money. Prof. King stated we should give alumni an email address and a free first-year membership to the Alumni Association, which would benefit the Alumni and SIU as well.

Prof. McClurg was asked if the committee has started to fashion ideas about how to go about the process of implementing the procedures regarding turnitin.com. He stated that the key question was whether we wanted to make turnitin.com and other software available to students prior to having the faculty check theses and dissertations. There were technical questions as to how to make sure that students get access. Prof. McClurg stated Donna Post has agreed to look into this. He also stated we will need to do some training with regards to the software and the policy. We discussed holding seminars and plan to contact the IT folks at the library. We are also discussing changing the graduation checklist in the graduate school to indicate that the research paper, thesis or dissertation has been vetted through turnitin.com. He asked the Council to please provide suggestions or ideas to him for review and he will incorporate it into the discussion.

Vice Chancellor Koropchak stated we will increase the penetration of the training that we do for ethics and responsible conduct in research which includes the plagiarism issues. Right now we have training that is for teaching, research and graduate assistants but that leaves out the other 45% of the students that do not hold assistantship. AVC Rice stated she does the RCR training every semester for research assistants and she covers plagiarism, human subjects, and animal care just to remind students that they have to get these compliance agreements done before they start gathering data. Most masters and doctoral students will be doing some sort of research and there is a need for them to go through the RCR training. It takes about 35 minutes to deliver in the “quickie” form. She believes that perhaps some of this is being covered in the colleges in their own disciplinary ethics training courses but most universities are requiring this on a much broader basis for faculty and for students. Attendance is taken and departments are contacted when a student fails to attend. Prof. Mohanty stated that in response to the MAT inspection, everyone is required to go through a training session when handling chemicals. VC Koropchak stated we are going to try to find a way to get more comprehensive coverage on this and if anyone has any ideas, please bring them forward. One thing that came up in the discussion was making this training a graduation requirement. AVC Rice said if we are going to work on this, it would be useful to have a resolution coming from the Graduate Council endorsing this in principle and suggesting that we develop something. Prof. Stockdale stated they have an internal form used as a checklist called the 4 in 1. It would be very easy to add one item to that at the prospectus meeting that asks the appropriate questions regarding human subjects, etc. Perhaps all colleges could handle this on their internal checklists when students pass comprehensive exams.

13. Old Business: There was no old business to discuss.

14. New Business: Brad Colwell stated he and some others in his department did not get notification or email about the ethics training. Provost Rice stated that a memo under the Chancellors signature was distributed which directed individuals to the website and described the nature of the exercise itself. Provost Rice stated he will send an email to directors and deans to see if others did not receive the memo regarding ethics training and will make sure they get the information needed. Also discussed was the challenge of the training not being accessible on all platforms. A question was also raised about how much time is being used for student workers to take the ethics training when much of it does not appear to apply to their positions.

As there was no more business to be brought before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna L. Reynolds
Recording Secretary