

Minutes of the Graduate Council
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
March 3, 2011

Members and Administrative Officers:

Present: Gary Apgar, Sara Baer, Carl Bloom, Rita Cheng, Judith Davie, Susan Ford, Nicholas Hoffman (David Aubrey) (GPSC), Jody Huggenvik, Holly Hurlburt, Scott Ishman, Kimberly Kempf-Leonard, John A. Koropchak, Shauna MacDonald (GPSC), Matthew McCarroll, John Mead, Eileen Meehan (Susan Ford), Nancy Mundschenk, Ryan Netzley, Elyse Pineau, Joshua Potter (Kyle Rudick) (GPSC), Travis Pour (GPSC), Sharon Shrock, Ratna Sinha, Keith Waugh, Matthew Whiles, David Wilson, and Bryan Young.

Absent: Amer AbuGhazaleh, David Carlson, John Dobbins, Leslie Lloyd, Paul McGreal, Najjar Abdul-Musawwir, Jay Means, Manoj Mohanty, Mark Peterson, Prudence Rice, Pamela Smoot, and Tomasz Wiltowski.

In Attendance: William Devenport, Acting Associate Dean, and Gary Kistner, Senior Lecturer, Off-Campus Academic Programs, College of Applied Science and Arts; Stephen L. Brown, Associate Professor, Health Education and Recreation; and Tina M. Price, Recording Secretary.

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 8:00 am by Chair Mundschenk in the Kaskaskia and Missouri Rooms of the Student Center located at 11255 Lincoln Drive, Carbondale, Illinois.

Announcement of Proxies by Associate Dean David Wilson:

Susan Ford for Eileen Meehen; Charles Kyle Rudick for Joshua Potter (GPSC); and David Aubrey for Nicholas Hoffman (GPSC).

1. **Consideration of Minutes**

Motion moved by the Chair to accept the Minutes of the February 3, 2011, Meeting of the Graduate Council. Motion carried.

2. **Remarks—Chancellor Rita Cheng**

The Strategic Planning Process has been launched and will be looking at a very intensive review of the campus over the spring. Members from the Graduate Council are involved in the approximately 35-member group. The group will be establishing questions and opportunities for the campus as a whole throughout next fall and hope to wrap-up the process during the spring of 2012. Updates will continue through the established forums as well as the established governance groups.

The Provost Search Committee will receive invitations later this week, with plans to convene the group early next week to begin a process of screening the applications. The group will be asked to provide the strengths, weaknesses and best fit from each of the six applications. The Committee will provide an opportunity for the campus, as well, to have interaction with the candidates.

The two dean searches are both at the point of recommending candidates for campus interviews. The College of Liberal Arts Dean Search Chair provided names to Chancellor Cheng, with the Engineering Department being a few days behind.

Work has been underway to select an Acting Dean for Engineering to fill the gap between now and the time when the permanent dean arrives on campus. There are several applicants for the position, and there are plans to announce who will step into that role over the next few months. A new dean is expected sometime in the summer to make sure that there is proper flow and governance inside the college.

The meeting of the Dean's Council discussed Distance Education, in particular, the desire of COLA to begin some distance education offerings in the summer. An attempt will be made to incorporate everyone's responses and input into the document, and perhaps launch a pilot for COLA in the summer rather than waiting until the organizational structure is finalized.

There are five days of mediation scheduled for March. There are three next week and two later in the month with the IEA/NEA bargaining units to finalize contracts by the end of the month.

The Chancellor addressed the leadership group a couple of weeks ago regarding the budget for FY11 and shared the remarks with the broader campus. Graduate Council members were encouraged to read not only the challenges but also the remarks that point out the great strengths we have as a campus.

Chancellor Cheng spent yesterday in Springfield discussing FY12's budget with members of the Senate Committee. The Republican members of the Senate Committee wished to know, specifically, how many cuts were made, what sacrifices were made, why expenditures are still high. And, basically, interactions regarding sabbaticals were that they deemed they were [wasteful]. We were the first of several other universities to address the Senate Committee that day, and the Chancellor plans to make contact with other colleagues as to whether their discourses were of a similar tone; disjointed and nonreceptive to answers provided. The Chancellor's concern is that this is just the beginning. A visit to the House of Representatives is scheduled for March 10.

In response to a question regarding approved sabbaticals, the Chancellor confirmed that sabbaticals that had been approved are approved. In addition, new knowledge and product coming out of the campus, and by our colleagues, will be forwarded in response to the Senate Committee questioning faculty's use of sabbaticals to advance research efforts.

3. Announcements

Vice Chancellor for Research John A. Koropchak

Sue Rimmer, Professor and Graduate Director, Geology Department, has agreed to chair the Enhancement of Proposal and Award Procedures Committee that was established in response to the Research Climate Survey.

The Chancellor's Installation Week, April 11-15 planning includes The Undergraduate Research Symposium on April 11 and the Research Town Meeting on April 12. New features and activities added include:

- Dale Vitt, Chairperson, Plant Biology, to kick off the meeting with The Outstanding Scholar Lecture
- Students involved with the IGERT Program will make a presentation covering their experiences while studying Watersheds in Panama
- Awards for posters
- Presentations of awards for recent patents.

Awards at the end of February, which is two-thirds of the way through the fiscal year, stand at \$50.5 Million. That is approximately \$4 Million behind last year's grants, which included those from the Federal Stimulus Bill. Related to that, faculty in the College of Agriculture and Fisheries are to be awarded \$5.3 Million from the Howard Buffet Foundation for Sustainable Crop Production. This is one of the largest grants received on campus, and involves Bryan Young, Karl Williard, Jon Schoonover, Michael Lydy, and Todd Winters.

There is a Council for Undergraduate Research event every year entitled Posters-on-the-Hill, and we have had a student selected almost every year. Derreck Langwith, an undergraduate research student in the Department of Linguistics, was selected along with 50+ students nationwide. Congratulations to our undergraduate researchers and their faculty mentors.

The Fisheries Center received a rating of top publications and transactions from the American Fisheries Society; three publications were in the Top 10 (30%). Similarly, Andrei Kolmakov, Department of Physics, was listed among the Top 10 by Nanowerks on his work with artificial noses.

Associate Dean David L. Wilson

Announcements for the Doctoral Fellowships will come out by Monday, March 7. The Master's Fellowships will be announced right after Spring Break.

We have been looking at and revising parts of the Apply Yourself Application that have been problematic. In looking at the data on applications, we were down mostly in areas

that are down nationally, and up everywhere else. The Apply Yourself Application was not the reason we were down.

Dr. Koropchak interjected, stating that the data may be down [artificially] because there were difficulties with the application process through Banner. As a result, there were duplicate submissions by students, but admissions are up compared to last year.

Dr. Wilson continued in response to a concern expressed by the Graduate Council members regarding letters submitted and their disjointed appearance within the application. Work is being done to compress at least three line items into one and alleviate the problem. Additionally, two-thirds of the programs wanted some type of ranking, and one-third of the faculty did not. The process continues with an effort to satisfy all concerns.

There were no further observations or concerns.

4. **Announcements**

Chair Nancy Mundschenk

There were no announcements to report.

5. **Faculty Senate—Professor Apgar**

The Faculty Senate Executive Group met on Tuesday with the Chancellor and discussions for next Tuesday's docket includes the Distance Education Review and the Overload Policy.

All colleges were reminded that nominations for all upcoming elections are due by next spring.

6. **Report from CPBAC—Professor Ishman**

The subcommittee reviewed the Agility and Efficiency Task Forces that were established in 2005 and they were to address the Southern at 150. They concentrated on academic student services, business practices and hiring, and personnel practices. This was an effort to identify ways to improve the administration's communication of issues and procedures to faculty and staff, decision making with efficient and effective results, and strategic initiatives and changes with efficient constituency participation.

The report was presented and it provided the status of the recommendations that were made by the Agility and Efficiency Task Force in each category; status categories were Complete, Partially Complete or Not Complete. Summary lists of the major results were presented, the opportunities that remain in the assessments and recommendations made under each category.

The Chancellor advised that the reports are available on the website and planned to follow up with a request as to where the update may be found, as it would be helpful to see the percentages of completion.

Professor Ishman continued with a brief disclosure of the report's summary of results.

With regard to revenue enhancements, one recommendation was submitted suggesting a Pub be established on campus and possibly provide an educational opportunity for research by students dealing with the history and chemistry of brewing beer. The recommendation is under consideration.

7. **Nominations to Committees—Professor Ishman**

The following positions requiring nominations to committees were also gathered outside of the membership of the Graduate Council and extended to graduate faculty due to overtaxing of members:

- The Expanded Strategic Planning Steering Committee: Nominees were Matt McCaroll, Carl Williard, Sue Rimmer, Andy Hoffman, and Ruthann Rehfeldt.
 - Sue Rimmer, Holly Hurlburt and RuthAnn Rehfeldt were selected.
- Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Screening Committee: Nominees were Bryan Young, Ryan Netzley and David Gibson.
 - David Gibson was selected.
- Ombudsman Advisory Panel: Keith Waugh agreed to serve on the panel.

Thanks to everyone who agreed to be nominated for those positions.

8. **GPSC Report- Shauna MacDonald**

A Cost Committee will be created to review the fee proposals. Instead of a debate on the floor of the GPSC Board, it has been extended with the Cost Committee. Work is currently being done to get feedback on the fee proposal. There was a presentation on Tuesday, March 1, from the non-academic units regarding the increased fee proposal.

There was a brief discussion about corrections to a March 2 article published in The Daily Egyptian about the GPSC. The following observations were provided:

- The two constitutional amendments discussed in the article were presented to GPSC, but had not been voted on.
 - i. Reduce officer salaries and the current structure of assistantships with tuition waivers, and a significantly smaller stipend with no tuition waivers
 - ii. Change the current election procedure and have campus-wide elections for officers.
- The next meeting of the GPSC is March 29, not March 22.
- Constitutional amendments require a two-thirds vote, not three-fourths.

- The article makes it appear that the whole GPSC board may be behind, or for, cutting officer salaries. That is not the case.
- There were concerns regarding the accuracy of the persons quoted and the paraphrasing by the DE author.
- GPSC is structured to fund student events, not student groups. There are criteria for what qualifies.

Questions may be directed to the Shauna MacDonald.

There was an additional announcement that Shauna MacDonald will be leaving the university this summer to start a tenure track position as Professor at the Villanova University in Philadelphia.

9. **Report of Research Committee—Professor Baer**

Members of the Research Committee are developing an Academic Incentive Award Resolution. Members of the committee will meet at least twice to discuss the resolution before presentation at the next Graduate Council meeting.

10. **Report of New Programs Committee—Professor Hurlburt**

Motion

**Resolution in Support of the
Creation of an M.S. in Fire Service and Homeland Security Management**

A brief discussion ensued addressing the specifics of the program by Dr. Davenport and Mr. Kistner.

The Graduate Council members' discussions covered the following:

- Concerns regarding the representation by members of the graduate faculty versus adjunct members. The question concerned the [balance] of these committees and how it would be assured that there is permanent graduate faculty membership on the committee.
- A request for clarification of the requirements for the students' Master's Committee.
- Clarification as to why it is not an MA if it is a "no-paper."

Dr. Wilson addressed some of the concerns, stating that it is a no-paper program and, as a consequence, it will not have a traditional committee structure. The main concern was advisement, and they do have a very sound structure in place with the Director of Graduate Studies. There will be graduate faculty on the campus who will also participate in the program. It is expected that half of the courses will be delivered by adjunct, which is very consistent with programs in the College of Education. Those who are teaching will go through the regular vetting as those who are qualified to be members of adjunct faculty.

Regarding the differences between the MS and MA degrees, the lines of demarcation are not firm. It no longer has a specific definition. We have also created a series of different kinds of Master's programs. Whether it is the Master's of Public Administration, Physician Assistant's or MFA's, etc., it is a term that denotes a period of study. It is an issue that comes up periodically at the Council of Graduate Schools and has not been dealt with.

Vote: Graduate Council Resolution in Support of the Creation of an M.S. in Fire Service and Homeland Security Management, 20 in favor and 2 abstentions; Motion carried.

Resolution

Graduate Council Resolution – March, 2011 in Support of RME for concurrent MD/Masters of Public Health Degree

Reading of the Resolution by Professor Hurlburt

RATIONALE

Whereas, the College of Education and Human Services and the School of Medicine have proposed a concurrent MD/MPH program in response to increasing intersection between primary care medicine and public health policy at community, regional and national levels; and

Whereas, only two such concurrent programs exist in Illinois, both in the northern portion of the state, where the only accredited MPH programs also reside. Thus the program will fulfill a regional and state-wide demand; and

Whereas, students will complete the dual degree program in 5 years, with the first two resident on the Carbondale campus; and

Whereas, no alterations to the curriculum will be necessary and no new faculty, resources, or funding will be required.

RESOLUTION

Therefore be it resolved that the Graduate Council approves the proposed RME for concurrent MD / MPH Degree.

Professor Hurlburt offered a clarification, stating that the two programs already exist. What is new is the creation of two degrees in one program, and that is why it can be said with confidence that there will no additional expenditures. The material the new programs presented are very convincing.

Dr. Brown, appearing on behalf of the Medical School Department Chair, offered the following responses to questions from the Graduate Council.

- The program would be a new track and in five years would require accreditation. They will be able to use their fourth year medical school electives to satisfy this new track.
- The first year will be entirely MPH; the core classes and not elective classes.
- Admission to both programs would be required, starting with the MD. They offer their top students the opportunity and then work down the list.

Resolution

Graduate Council Resolution – March, 2011 in Support of RME for a Certificate of Training in Histotechnology

Reading of Resolution by Professor Hurlburt

RATIONALE

Whereas, the School of Medicine has proposed a certificate of training in Histotechnology (the science and practice of biological tissue preparation). The certificate will be offered to both undergraduate and graduate students. The certificate program provides training and preparation for a national exam in Histotechnology, and is in response to a growing demand for trained personnel in several fields of medical research; and

Whereas, there are no similar programs in Illinois, and only four baccalaureate programs nationwide. The program fills a regional and national need and may attract additional students to our campus; and

Whereas, most of the required curriculum is already on the books, and the program will require no new faculty/staff or facilities.

RESOLUTION

Therefore be it resolved that the Graduate Council approves the proposed RME for a Certificate of Training in Histotechnology.

Professor Hurlburt added that the program is aimed at undergraduate, but Master's students will also be able to attend. There was a brief disclosure of the experience and qualifications of Maureen Doran, head of the histology group. There were discussions about the Resolution wording specifying that most of the required curriculum is already on the books. It was suggested that Dr. Doran just wanted to formalize another course; for example, electromicroscopy and other courses are already in place, and this attempt to confine them to both end points.

In response to questions about the certificate, Dr. Wilson stated that it is a certificate program setup under different guidelines. There is a more formalized structure for graduate certificates than what is being done here. They would not be taking these courses

for graduate credit and would be required to pay graduate tuition. But nonetheless, there is a real incentive for them. Graduate students were welcomed into the program, and that is why it was sent to the Graduate Council. It was also noted that someone with a BS could come into the program for the course work and credit hours just to attain the certificate.

Discussions concluded with a suggestion to have Dr. Doran in attendance at the next Graduate Council meeting.

Resolution

Graduate Council Resolution – March, 2011 in Support of RME for Name Change for Women’s Studies Program

Reading of Resolution

RATIONALE

Whereas, the Women’s Studies Program, which grants both an undergraduate minor and a graduate certificate proposes changing its name to Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies. This change involves no changes to the program or its curriculum, and better reflects courses already being offered in the program as well as increasing the reach and inclusiveness of the program to both faculty and students; and

Whereas, a more broadly conceived interdisciplinary program can only increase collaboration and cooperation by faculty, students and programs across campus.

RESOLUTION

Therefore be it resolved that the Graduate Council approves the proposed RME for name change to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

Professor Hurlburt advised that she would be answering questions on behalf of the program. In response to the question as to why not use the title “Gender Studies,” the understanding is that there was an attempt to have the largest possible umbrella. The people within the community of Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies felt there was still a need to have an emphasis on women.

There were no further questions.

11. **Report of Program Review Committee—Professor Leonard**

No Report.

12. **Report of Education Policies Committee—Professor Ford**

The committee was charged to deal with revisions to the Operating Paper and the Restructuring Plan for Distance Education. Comments from the Research Committee were received from the last meeting and have been incorporated into the suggested changes for the Operating Paper and forwarded to the Executive Committee. Comments regarding the Distance Education plan are listed below.

Restructuring Plan for Distance Education

The first general concern is the absence of an introduction that outlines the purpose of distance education and how that purpose serves the academic mission of SIUC. The presentation of specific mechanics for developing and delivering courses/programs is important, but should be discussed in the context of that mission.

- (1) These are academic issues and offerings; everything about DE courses and programs should report to the Assoc. Provost for Academic Affairs, NOT the Assoc. Provost for Administration.
- (2) As course/program offerings, our foremost concern throughout should be ways to assure good pedagogy and a quality educational experience. That does not seem sufficiently emphasized (see also below). What is the *role* of online-learning – is it intended to be “the same,” “different but equivalent,” or “sub par” compared to standard pedagogy?
- (3) Tuition is a complex issue. Non-resident tuition requirements may kill DE at the start. However, resident tuition may encourage on-campus non-Illinois students to take DE courses rather than brick-and-mortar classes.
- (4) Staff for the technical side is grossly insufficient at present – not enough people in ISS, how will the staff from Continuing Ed be utilized, do we have staff with the expertise/credentials, etc.
- (5) “Guidelines for consistency in course development and delivery” (pg. 4) are worrisome. Not all models work well for all purposes and courses. If there are mandatory measures for student posting, faculty / student interaction, etc., we may mandate ways that are less than effective for particular courses, mandate lower quality in some subjects, or that become quickly outdated.
- (6) Assessment needs to be watched re NCA requirements. Distance education needs to be monitored in effective ways to assure *quality* higher education including a focus on learning outcomes.

- (7) Greatest weakness of DE may be securing identity management and computer lockdown products to assure that enrolled students are the ones completing work and taking tests.
- (8) Faculty ownership of online materials is *not* addressed – this is a CRITICAL issue for faculty involvement. Faculty are not going to simply hand over a distance learning / ILP class they have developed to a GA or another faculty member to deliver, since preparation time is substantial.
- (9) It is unclear what will happen with ILP courses, which currently serve important needs for some students who like the self-paced learning and are a large portion of distance courses offered. In particular, they provide a mechanism for students to take courses that are otherwise offered rarely because of low enrollments. We see low enrollments will continue to be a problem for distance education courses offered in a non-ILP format.
- (10) It is not clear how or if faculty will be compensated for course development. If it is through “borrowing” from a fund that must be repaid by departments, then departments may become very leery and reluctant to approve course development for faculty, particularly for higher level courses or courses outside the core (where enrollments cannot be guaranteed). Course/program development may well stall out.
- (11) Discussion of revenue distribution is not as clear and transparent as it could and should be. Need to clarify and codify in final version.
- (12) Programs are emphasized over courses – is this intentional? If departments are many courses / years from developing a full-fledged program, is the administration discouraging / not supporting the development of individual courses at this time? That is how the document reads.
- (13) Deadlines appear remarkably unrealistic. Pushing for the creation of on-line programs without adequate support staff, structure, or faculty buy-in on course development is a recipe for low-quality distance education and poor pedagogy. The likely switch from Blackboard in the near future will compound the difficulties of meeting a tight schedule. Current plan appears to rely heavily on the Committee and Sub-committees of the Distance Learning Council – who are these people? Are they all volunteers with other positions/responsibilities? A little more time may be the only resource the institution has to bring to the table at present to assure the quality we want.

- (14) Rather than knowing how much money other institutions, such as UI Springfield (pg. 3), are receiving, it would be far more informative to know what exactly they are doing in distance education, how many courses/programs, what format and style, and at what quality (and for other institutions). Distance education is not a magic bullet to solve our enrollment and revenue problems, and it requires a lot of time and effort to do it well and to offer quality. We need a model drawn from what others have done but developed to assure that SIUC is as good as the best and better than our neighbors in our delivery of distance education, not just one of the ravenous pack offering poor quality.

13. **Old Business:**

Chair Mundschenk reminded the members that the next meeting of the Graduate Council will be in the basement of Morris Library.

14. **New Business:**

The Graduate Council members were given copies of flyers for the Scholarly Lecture presented by Dr. Dale Vitt at the Research Town Hall Meeting on April 12.

Adjournment: There being no further business to bring before the council, the motion to adjourn was moved by the Chair and seconded. April 7, 2011 and the basement of Morris Library were fixed as the time and place of the next regular meeting, and the March 3, 2011 meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Attachments:

RME Addition of Concurrent MD/Masters of Public Health (attached)

RME Addition of Certificate of Training in Histotechnology (attached)

RME Modification of Women Studies to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (attached)

Tina M. Price
Recording Secretary