

2014-2015 GRADUATE COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes September 4, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Dr. Judith Davie.

Members Present: Craig Anz, Amanda Barnard (GPSC), Randolph Burnside, Norman Carver, David Conrad, Sarah Curtis (GPSC), Judith Davie, Michael Eichholz, Boyd Goodson, Reza Habib, Constantine Hatziaodoniu, Sajal Lahiri (Faculty Senate), Eric Lenz, Grant Miller, Prema Narayan, Natalie Nash (GPSC), Clayton Nielsonn, Cinzia Padovani, Andrew Pardieck, Julie Partridge, Slivia Secchi, Cynthia Sims, Ratna Sinha, Kevin Taylor (GPSC), Jeremiah Unkefer (GPSC), Tomas Velasco

Members Absent: Bryan Crow, Wayne Glass, Jamie McNutt, Corné Prozesky

Proxies: Mahbub Morshed for Allison Watts

Ex-Officio Members: Chancellor Paul Sarvela, James Allen, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs; Susan Ford, Acting Provost & Vice Chancellor; James Garvey, Vice Chancellor for Research; Keith Wilson, Dean's Council

1. Minutes

Dr. Davie asked for concerns and considerations of the May 1, 2014 Graduate Council minutes. No considerations voiced. Motion made and seconded. Minutes approved.

2. Remarks – Interim Chancellor Sarvela

Chancellor Sarvela reported that a gain of 25 students was reported for fall 2014. Statistics. Freshman enrollment up 2.4%. It has been 10 years since SIUC enrollment has shown an increase. The sophomore class is up 12.5% and transfers are up 2.4%. More detailed analysis is forthcoming. International students have increased 25%. This is the highest new international student enrollment since 1985. Top five (5) countries are Brazil, India, China, Saudi Arabia, and Taiwan. The freshman class comes from 32 states and 22 countries. 29% is African American and 11% Hispanic. 52% of the freshman class is female. Off campus enrollment increased by 5%. In response to a question regarding the number of Illinois students represented in freshman class, Chancellor Sarvela said that the majority of the freshman class is from Illinois and the bordering states. Acting Provost Ford added that the cold mailings that follow up ACT buys have netted SIU a huge increase in undergraduate applicants in Illinois and the bordering states. Cold mailings to states beyond Illinois borders are not going to take place for the short term of at least a couple years. More strategic mailings will take place outside the border states where it is known to attract a number of students. Chancellor Sarvela followed up by stating that it is more cost effective to stay within Illinois and the bordering states, and to focus on concentrated areas outside the bordering states. Chancellor Sarvela stated the budget will essentially remain flat, knowing that there may be slight changes depending on the elections and if the taxes are lowered. A few items related to research; 61.67 million in terms of awards, University vehicles are now allowed to park on campus, and IBHE approved the Fermentation Institute. Chancellor Sarvela stated some of his general philosophies; collaboration, inclusiveness, communication, transparency, and fairness. He added that it is very important to review how the budgets were determined. Fairness is very, very important. Vacancies are being worked on, especially in Admissions; Director, Associate Director, Assistant Director. There are also openings in Registrar. Additional work will be done in Policy. Chancellor Sarvela asked if anyone has comments, questions, or advice please let him know.

C. Padovani commented about the top countries of International freshman students. Chancellor Sarvela clarified and stated that International student number is actual enrolled students.

G. Miller asked about an update on the RME about the Restructuring of the College of Education and Human Services. Acting Provost Ford responded saying that after consultation with the Dean, it has been put on hold. The Dean is going to be forming a new committee from across the college

and reviewing the plan to decide if it will move forward and in what way or to come up with a new plan. While that committee is working on that, the Dean will be free to address other matters within the college.

S. Lahiri asked about the retention numbers in large colleges appearing to be lower. Chancellor Sarvela responded that it may be more difficult for the advisors to get in to work with the students in the larger programs. The data is going to be reviewed and they are looking for ideas from everyone as to how to address that issue.

R. Habib commented about the streamlining of the hiring process and asked about the process of the permission to hire paperwork and how far up it has to go. Acting Provost Ford replied that she has asked her staff to review the current process as well as the process from four years ago and to make recommendations for improvement. Chancellor Sarvela added that they will work hard to streamline the process. Acting Provost Ford clarified that salaries of \$150,000 or more go to the Chancellor for review. Once paperwork that has already gone through HR and Affirmative Action is received on her desk, it is signed and back out within twenty four hours and sometimes within one hour.

C. Hatziadoniu asked about plans for the Interim Chancellor and Acting Provost to visit the departments in the colleges. Chancellor Sarvela responded yes, and that a note will be sent to the colleges to set up a time for their visit.

S. Secchi mentioned the College of Agriculture has one of the best retention rates due mostly to faculty advising the students. Previous administration did not allow this practice. She asked if a nonacademic advisory model is going to be maintained throughout campus or will faculty be allowed to advise the students. Chancellor Sarvela responded by saying that they are taking a look at reorganization at all of the student service support areas. Provost Ford noted the appointment of Lauri Bell as the Dean of University College. Both she and Bell agree that everything about University College is open for review. They along with the other Deans are exploring how to move forward; knowing that they must serve this group of first year students well. This issue is going to be addressed immediately. Decentralizing First Year Advisement is certainly a primary option and a common option across the country.

3. Remarks – Acting Provost Ford

Provost Ford commented that many changes have been made over the last few weeks in an effort to transfer some of the decision making back in to the hands of Deans, Department Chairs and Directors. Ford noted the decline of Graduate Students and said that all the data show the best ways of recruiting Graduate Students is the network of students and alumni that SIU has. Ford mentioned the ongoing search for the Director of Undergraduate Admissions and Registrar positions. There are three Dean searches in process; Graduate Dean with a deadline of this month, Dean of Liberal Arts, and Dean of the College of Business. Over the summer, Jane Swanson agreed to be Interim Dean of Liberal Arts and Jason Greene agreed to be Interim Dean of the College of Business. Ford stated that the Retention Task Force, which was formed approximately one year ago, has developed a plan which is available on the Provost's website. In conclusion, Ford reiterated the power and importance of shared governance in the functioning of this institution. She also stated that she completely respects the role and authority that has been vested in the Faculty through their elected bodies, the Senate and Graduate Council, and the voting member of the GPSC.

4. Remarks – Interim Vice Chancellor for Research & Graduate Dean Garvey

Garvey reiterated that the Research Funds are up and that the Faculty are doing a better job at capturing funds which are becoming harder to get. One of the jobs of the Vice Chancellor is to provide start-up funds for new faculty. \$2.5 million has been invested for new faculty. Part of this money comes from State appropriation fund that comes to the Vice Chancellor's office for start-up funds each year. The funds are spread out and not just for one year start-up. 555 grants were submitted last year and 418 were funded. Garvey reported that Collaborative Annex for Research is still continuing. The Fermentation Science Program is located here. An aquatics facility will also be

located there which is anticipated to be online by this spring. Garvey stated that OSPA (Office of Sponsored Projects Administration) is working toward hiring more staff and asked for patience when waiting for the approval of grants. Technology Transfer is being worked on to make it better and more cost effective. A Research Advisory Council has been set up with representatives across colleges and unions on campus. The Research Advisory Council will have input on how to spend the money wisely each year. Garvey commented that the issue of chemical safety is being addressed. A double wide trailer may be installed soon to house relatively dangerous chemicals. It will be located on campus, away from other buildings. Fringe Benefit Rates are now at 54.7%. Garvey stated that they are looking for flexible opportunities to come up with a range in rates. There is a Grant Writing Workshop on Friday, October 3, 2014. The cost is paid for by OSPA. Those interested in signing up should contact OSPA at ospa@siu.edu or contact Wayne Glass. In conclusion, Garvey announced that there will be a week of Research and Creative Activity during the last week of March 2015.

M. Eichholz asked about Tuition on Grants and how the Graduate Council is going to deal with that. He also asked what is that money is being spent on. Garvey responded saying that the Tuition on Grants is not being implemented. He explained that the current policy was created in 2012. Moving on this fall, a new Tuition on Grants recommendation was made by a committee that was set up by this body (Graduate Council). It is going to be presented to the Graduate Council by Judith Davie, Chair of Graduate Council. This information is on the Graduate Council website under "Reports 2013-14".

Garvey moved on to talking about Graduate School. They are currently working on a project called Visual Measures. It is an activity recording system for our faculty and is commonly used by most research active universities. It is a way for faculty to get all of their information in to an organized/standardized format so that the administration can take note of it for presentations, exhibitions, and publications. Garvey noted that the Graduate School is down by 74 PhD students and 64 Master's students this year. There are 1,171 PhD students and 2,669 Master's students. Roughly half of the PhD students are International and roughly a quarter of the Master's students are International. Garvey stated that he is working on fundraising with Alumni. Lastly Garvey mentioned the Graduate Fellowship Program and asked the Council to encourage any of the students who are a senior planning on going to Graduate School to apply for this program.

M. Eichholz commented about adequate resources for the Dean of Graduate School. Provost Ford agreed and stated that funding is critical.

5. Faculty Senate, Professor Lahiri

Reported that the Senate's last meeting was in July and the next scheduled meeting is September 9th. The Senate discussed the ICE form and the Fall Faculty lunch is scheduled for October 16th.

6. Remarks – Associate Provost for Academic Programs Allen

Provost Allen spoke about Digital Measure and the need to propose an implementation team of faculty. An invitation will be sent from the Provost's office and to please nominate yourself if you are interested. Allen commented on the Fall Final Exam Schedule and reported that a task force of faculty members has been implemented to discuss changes for Spring 2015 Final Exam Schedule. The Fall Final Exam Schedule will remain the same. Deadlines; sabbatical leave applications are due by September 15th. The form for that is on the Provost's website. Dossier are due in October on the D2L format. Syllabi for courses being taught this semester need to be posted online and send copies to Provost Allen's office. Assessment Day is on October 2nd. Proposals for that are due on September 15th. Deadlines for catalog changes are all due October 1st. Allen commented on the Program Quality Assurance Report that will be submitted to the Board of Trustees. He thanked those whom he worked with on this report and looks forward to working on it in the coming year. Allen stated that there are about 15 self-studies for programs that are under review. There are about 15 programs for reaccreditation.

R. Habib asked if a course was previously Include Ed, does it automatically renew or does it need to be resubmitted. Allen replied saying that it needs to be submitted immediately.

G. Miller asked about a mechanism to track Form 90's after they leave the Colleges. Allen referred to the spreadsheet available on the Provost's website.

7. Remarks – Council Chair Dr. Davie

Dr. Davie stated that she had nothing to add to the previous remarks regarding the Budget Committee and Senate. She stated that she wanted to add a little bit of context to the Tuition on Grants report. The Tuition on Grants Policy was implemented in 2012. There was immediate concern because of the implementation without Faculty and Graduate Council review and recommendation. The response to that was for the Chancellor to request a committee analysis on the impact of Faculty grant activity. That committee was chaired by the Vice Chair of the Graduate Council at that time which was Dr. Matt McCarroll. A committee was formed and effort was made to gain membership from all impacted units. The committee's charge was to come up with recommendations and modifications that both the administration and faculty could agree on. Two alternative models were developed. The progressive model; the larger the grant the larger the charge, and the fixed rate model; a certain amount per graduate student would be charged but there would be a cap at some percentage of the total grant. Neither of these models were acceptable to previous administration. Because of that the committee has not been active for the past year and a half. Under the suggestion of the Chancellor and Dr. Garvey, the report was finalized and submitted to Dr. Davie this summer. It has been forwarded to the Research Committee for review and recommendation. Dr. Davie reported that it is now available and encouraged the Council to look through it and see the committee's comments. Dr. Davie noted that there is a very broad membership and when a final vote was requested they were asked to rank the ideas that had been discussed. Each member ranked to rescind the policy.

8. Deans Council – Professor Wilson

Wilson expressed the excitement of the Deans with the personnel changes and new policies. Wilson stated that the Council is focusing on quality programs and the retention of students.

9. GSPC Report – Amanda Barnard

Barnard reported that there has been one meeting this year and there is not a budget to report on. She noted that the vast majority of the budget was given back to the campus community and graduate students. This is done by funding various events on campus. Barnard stated that the Annual Research Awards will be in the spring. \$250 awards are given to graduate students to enhance their research. Two topics were discussed at the meeting. One is the special Student Trustee Election which is going on now. This election took place because of inaccuracies on the application of the student chosen by the Board of Trustees. The second item was the student health insurance policy. The current policy is self-funded by the University and is not in compliance with the Affordable Care Act. This current academic year is the last year the University will be allowed to offer this self-funded non-ACA-compliant insurance plan. The next GPSC meeting is Tuesday, September 9th. Dr. Dunn will be speaking.

Provost Ford added by stressing the importance of this issue for the Graduate Council. Graduate students are asking for ACA compliant healthcare. This is an issue for graduate students and all of us concerned with graduate education. It is also a recruitment issue.

10. Nominations to Committees / Announcements – Council Vice Chair Burnside

Burnside reported that he will be contacting the members of the Graduate Council regarding the number of searches taking place this fall semester and going in to the spring semester.

11. Standing Committee Reports

a. Education Policies Committee Report – Professor Carver

Carver stated that there is a long list of items from Provost Ford and will report on at least one or two of those items at the next Council meeting.

b. New Programs Committee Report – Professor Habib

No report.

c. Program Review Committee Report – Professor Miller

Miller stated that there is a long list of programs to review and he will be contacting committee members soon.

d. Research Committee Report – Professor Eichholz

Eichholz reported that there are three issues being worked on this semester. Tuition on Grants, the Postdoctoral Policy, and the Policy on Faculty Receiving Non SIU Grants. Eichholz asked Dean Garvey if the policy the committee received is to include graduate students. Garvey verified that it should include anyone receiving a grant. Eichholz asked Dean Garvey about proposal stage and funded stage. Garvey said to just send at funded stage.

12. Old Business

None

13. New Business

None

14. Adjournment

The motion was made by R. Habib to adjourn and seconded by J. Unkefer. The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m.