

**MEETING OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL**  
Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
October 4, 2007

Members and Administrative Officers Present:

Marcia Anderson, Thomas Britton, Ronald Browning, David Carlson (ex-officio), Brad Colwell, Daniel Dyer, Ramesh Gupta, Eric Hellgren, Jason Hammond (GPSC), Andrew Hofling, Maryon King, Elizabeth Klaver, John Koropchak (ex-officio), Pat Manfredi, Scott McClurg, Christian Moe, Manoj Mohanty, Donna Post, John Preece, Jyotika Ramaprasad, Karen Renzaglia, Don Rice (ex-officio), Prudence Rice (office of VCR), Peggy Stockdale, Spyros Tragoudas, Karl Williard, David Wilson, and Michael Young.

Absent: Ann Fletcher, Gilbert Scott, Scott Ishman, Jack Kremers, John Mead, Jonathan Remo, Fernando Treviño, and Bennett Whitaker,

Guests: Jane Adams, Steve Esling, Ratna Sinha

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 September 6, 2007 Graduate Council Meeting

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the September 2007 Graduate Council meeting.

2. Remarks—Chancellor Treviño

Prof. Tragoudas announced that Chancellor Treviño will not be in attendance at today's meeting.

3. Remarks – Interim Provost Rice

Provost Rice had nothing to announce.

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

Vice Chancellor Koropchak

Vice Chancellor Koropchak reported that a 2006 study of academic space on campus revealed that the level of research space on campus was lower than at comparable institutions. One suggestion was to consider constructing a research

facility that will address needs across a wide range of disciplines. The President's Office has discussed the idea of constructing an advanced energy and interdisciplinary research laboratory with the Governor's office and it may be included in the capital bill. The proposal calls for a \$50 million building that would require a 20% match. The good news is this project has risen to number 13 on the system's list of capital priorities. Dr. Koropchak stated there is a reasonable chance that this facility could be built on our campus in the future. In response to Professor Mohanty's question of how long in the future, Dr. Koropchak stated one of the requirements is that SIUC will need to secure a 20% match. This match may come from a variety of places such as individual donors, clean coal trust in the State of Illinois, federal sources, industries, or prominent energy industries. He further stated that it would rise very fast on the list if we had the match available.

### *Good News*

Linda Toth, a professor of Pharmacology and Associate Dean of Research at the School of Medicine in Springfield, has received a 2007 Charles River Laboratory Excellence in Refinement Award.

Miao Chang, a graduate student doctoral candidate in medical microbiology was awarded the 2007 Elsevier New investigator award.

Vice Chancellor Koropchak encouraged everyone to be engaged in homecoming activities this weekend. He also announced there will be a viewing in the Lesar Law Auditorium of a documentary called "To die in Jerusalem" which will also be airing in November on HBO. This documentary was written by Hilla Medalia, a former graduate student, who was a recent nominee for the outstanding Midwest Association of Graduate Schools Thesis Award. She did not win the Thesis Award, but her documentary later won the Angelis Award, an international award, over 400 entries world-wide.

SIUC was selected as one of the 100 best colleges in the United States by *Cosmo Girl*. Their selection was based on SIU Carbondale's environment that is inviting toward women. The research was conducted in consultation with the Princeton Review.

### Associate Vice Chancellor Rice

Associate Vice Chancellor Rice reported that ORDA is continuing a search to fill a 4<sup>th</sup> research project specialist. The last search was unsuccessful so the position description was written to be more specific and will be re-advertised in broader markets in St. Louis, Paducah, Springfield and Evansville. Our most recent hire has a baby due on Saturday which will bring us down to 2 research project specialists.

She further stated that during the last meeting she had announced that the awards processed were down from July and August of last year, but that she expected those numbers to change. As of the end of the first quarter, the total is now up from the same period last year.

#### Dean Wilson

Dean Wilson announced that he, along with Scott McClurg, is working on revising the masters and doctoral fellowship application and hope to be completed by the end of November.

Dr. Koropchak announced that the McNair Scholarship, which is a program that must be renewed every 4-5 years, was submitted earlier this year. Our proposal score was 98.33, but the cut-off for funding was 98.67. We believe that this is a valuable program for the university and we are working on ways that we can continue the program during the interim while pursuing an appeal. We are optimistic that we can provide enough information to justify a gain of ½ point or more to put us in a fundable range

#### 5. Faculty Senate – Professor Stockdale

Professor Stockdale reported the vacant slots in the Faculty Senate have been filled with Douglas Lind, School of Law; Mary Lamb and Lori Merrill Fink, College of Liberal Arts; and Randy Hughes, College of Science. The Fall Faculty meeting is scheduled for October 25 in the student ballroom at 11:45. Remarks will be made by Chancellor Treviño and there will be a presentation of our marketing efforts and a panel discussion. We hope to invite elected officers of the Graduate Council and others to speak about efforts regarding recruitment and retention. Associate Vice Chancellor Rice asked if Victoria Valle had been invited. Prof. Stockdale said they are considering it, but wanted it to be a faculty meeting.

VC Koropchak announced he had lunch with Victoria Valle to discuss ways that undergraduate recruitment and retention can collaborate with graduate recruitment and retention. He stated they both feel there are opportunities to enhance what each does by collaboration.

#### 6. Announcements – Professor Tragoudas had no announcements to make.

#### 7. Nominations to Committees – Professor Colwell

Professor Colwell announced that a search for the Director of Student Health Services is being conducted by Vice Chancellor Larry Dietz. The College of Education recommended Tamara De Stefanis, who has an interest in Higher Education, as a potential candidate.

8. GPSC Report – Shelly McGrath

Ms. McGrath announced that the GPSC, USG President and the Student Trustee had a Town Hall meeting last Thursday in an effort to get more students involved in government on campus. The last GPSC Graduate Council member was elected at the last meeting. We are discussing a resolution regarding the Poshard situation but nothing formal at this time.

9. Report of Programs Committee – Professor Hofling

Professor Hofling reported that a proposal for a Center for Delta Studies is being considered and the entire proposal can be found on the Graduate Council web page. Professor Hofling then read the following announcement of 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 publics. 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.

Professor Hofling introduced Professor Jane Adams as the new Director of the Center. He stated that COLA Dean Allen Vaux and Anthropology Chair, Susan Ford, were present at today's meeting and both have made commitments in support of this project. Christian Moe asked from where the money has been made available. Prof. Hofling said the money has been made available from Vice Chancellor Koropchak and from summer salaries that have been agreed upon by the COLA Dean and Chair of Anthropology. When asked if there may be State or Federal support for this project, Vice Chancellor Koropchak said one purpose of the three year period is to determine whether there is any external funding available. In order to apply for federal funding, the Center needs official recognition. The Delta Regional Authority has resources available that are distributed through a defined area called the Delta Region. The Delta Regional Authority has an annual budget, and there is the potential for the budget to increase over time. He feels there will be growing opportunities to seek external support.

Professor Adams was asked by Professor Colwell if there are other similar centers in the delta region. Professor Adams responded that there is one center with a similar mission located at Arkansas State in Jonesboro that was started a number of years ago. It is not very active at this time. There is a somewhat comparable center within the Appalachian region that has a similar interdisciplinary type of mission. Professor Colwell asked if our Center would be leading the way or following. Professor Adams responded that we are leading the way. Professor Adams said the Federal Co-Chair of the Delta Regional Authority and his staff encouraged us to go forward with this.

Vice Chancellor Koropchak stated that Chancellor Wendler attempted to organize a collaborative venture with higher educational institutions within the Delta Region. This stimulated discussion that is the basis for the Center for Delta Studies.

Karen Renzaglia asked if there is infrastructure for the Center or where it will be housed. Professor Adams responded that at this time the Center is housed in her office with a quarter-time GA. She added at this point it is a shoestring operation but anticipates that she will be able to raise sufficient funds to begin to build an adequate staff.

Spyros Tragoudas announced the proposal is on the Graduate Council website and the vote on that resolution will be taken at the next meeting.

10. Report of Research Committee – Professor Renzaglia

Prof. Renzaglia stated the Committee met with Vice Chancellor Koropchak and clarified a number of issues.

Vice Chancellor Koropchak added that one of the topics discussed was the Faculty Excellence Award that the School of Medicine has proposed related to the indirect cost return to the college from grants. The Chancellor and the President has given their approval to the plan. This will help when considering other ideas for the rest of the campus.

11. Report of Program Review Committee – Professor Anderson

Professor Anderson reported the orientation for all internal review team committee members was held by the Associate Provost's office and the internal review committees are now all working.

12. Report of Educational Policies Committee – Professor McClurg.

Professor McClurg had no Report at this time.

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

14. New Business: There were no new business items to discuss.

As there was no further business to bring before the Council, Prof. Tragoudas adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna L. Reynolds

Recording Secretary