Minutes of the Meeting of the Graduate Faculty Senate
April 24, 2007

The meeting was called to order by President Thomas Dougherty at 3:30 p.m. in 407F Cornell Hall.

Senators and administrative representatives attending: Thomas Dougherty, Mark Fine, Gail Fitzgerald, Margaret Grogan, Stephen Lombardo, Anthony Lupo, Eileen Porter, Jay Scribner, Jan Segert, Paul Speckman, Alan Strathman, Steve Van Doren, Nancy West, Lee Wilkins, Pam Benoit, Ron Drobney, George Justice, and Ruth Erwin (Graduate School), and Jamal Ibdah, Jerry Parker and Douglas Anthony (for Clinical and Translational Sciences degree proposal), Azin Mustapha and James Groves (for the Food Safety and Defense Graduate Certificate).

Senators and administrative representatives absent: Stephanie Craft, Peter Markie, James McGlew, Debbie Lelekis (Graduate Student Association).

Dr. Dougherty announced the new Senators who will be serving for the next three years and thanked the outgoing Senators for their service for the past three years.

Proposed Masters & PhD Degrees in Clinical and Translational Sciences

Dr. Dougherty went over several key questions that had arisen out of the Executive and Academic Affairs Committees review of the Proposed Masters and PhD Degrees in Clinical and Translational Sciences. Some concerns included: confusion over what Clinical and Translational Sciences is, why it is important, why is a PhD being offered, how can students learn in four years, what is the market for the degrees, what is the market for students who only earn a master's, and what are the Methods courses. The proposed degrees stem from a grant proposal being submitted to NIH in which the grant requires a post bachelor's degree for awarding the grant.

Drs. Ibdah, Parker, and Anthony provided an overview on the Advanced Degree Program in Clinical and Translational Sciences. The overview addressed concerns raised by the GFS. They provided definitions for clinical sciences, which is the introduction of biomedical discovery to clinical applications, and translational sciences, which is the study of biomedical sciences at the interfaces between traditional disciplines. They indicated that several departments on campus are involved in the creation of the degree programs and the degrees would be interdisciplinary degrees. The GFS asked several questions including courses needed to complete degrees, what students' projects would entail, what journals would publish research projects, what the third years electives would consist of, challenges from students who have not taken ethics, health administration or other related courses. It was indicated that the thesis would be a high level research project and students could come directly from an undergraduate degree program and start directly into the program or could come through a masters or professional degree. After Drs. Ibdah, Parker, and Anthony left the meeting, discussion continued. It was decided that a list of issues and concerns will be sent to Drs. Ibdah, Parker, and Anthony for further feedback. The Senate will continue to work on the proposal through the summer to finalize approve prior to the grant proposal's deadline.

Food Safety and Defense Graduate Certificate
Drs. Mustapha and Groves gave an overview of the Food Safety and Defense Graduate Certificate proposal. The Certificate is part of the cooperative program with the Great Plains Initiative that includes Kansas State, Iowa State, and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. MU will be teaching one of the 11 courses that are part of the stand-alone certificate program. If more courses are developed at MU, they may be added to the certificate's core courses. Drs. Mustapha and Groves indicated that MU still need to set up the Advisory Committee and prepare the MOA for Great Plains. The courses will be online courses with an audience primarily of graduate students who are working in the food industry, who may or may not have a Food Science degree. The certificate will allow students who are not able to come back to campuses to get a specialization. They also indicated that on campus students can take the online courses in addition to their regular courses. The first class is scheduled for Summer 2007. A motion and second were made to approved the Food Safety and Defense certificate contingent on approval of the MOA and establishment of the Advisory Committee. The motion was approved with one abstention.

Higher and Continuing Education Administration Graduate Certificate

Dr. Grogram gave an overview on the purpose of the Higher and Continuing Education Administration Graduate Certificate. The department is anticipating that the certificate will recruit future graduate students in Educational Administration. The proposed certificate will address the need for enhanced understanding of the higher education institutional context and for improved skills in areas required for effective administration of the higher and continuing education enterprises. The certificate is designed as a stand-alone or degree affiliated graduate certificate program. As a stand-alone certificate it will be available for all non-degree-seeking students. Students can also be admitted to the master's or Ph.D. program in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis after completion of the certificate with up to 12 hours of the certificate courses applying to the degree at the discretion of the student's committee. A motion and second were made to approve the Higher and Continuing Education Administration Graduate Certificate. The motion was approved.

May 2007 Graduate School Degree Recipients

Dr. Benoit presented the tentative graduation list for the May 11, 2007 Commencement. The list includes 1,111 students: 213 doctoral candidates, 22 educational specialist candidates, 873 master's candidates, and 3 students receiving certificates. A motion and second were made to approve the tentative list with the Graduate School having the right to revise the list as completion of degree requirements are certified. The motion was approved.

Election of GFS Officers for 2007-2008

Dr. Dougherty presented a slate of candidates for GFS Officers for 2007-08. For President Lee Wilkins was nominated and seconded. Motion was approved. For Vice President Paul Speckman was nominated and seconded. Motion was approved. For Member at Large Gail Fitzgerald was nominated and seconded. Motion was approved. For Academic Affairs Chair Margaret Grogan was nominated and seconded. Motion was approved. For Fellowship and Awards Chair Eileen Porter was nominated and seconded. Motion was approved. Officers for 2007-08 are:
• President: Lee Wilkins
• Vice President: Paul Speckman
• Member at Large: Gail Fitzgerald
• Academic Affairs Chair: Margaret Grogan
• Fellowships & Awards Chair: Eileen Porter

A motion and second were made to allow the Executive Committee to function as the GFS as needed during the Senate. Those GFS members on campus will be included when action/decisions are necessary.

Graduate School Report

Dr. Justice indicated that James Lang gave the Graduate School's Graduate Education Week Lecture on April 20, 2007. Dr. Benoit indicated that during Graduate Education Week the Graduate School Awards reception was held, workshops were held including one on Applying to Graduate School, and the culmination of the week was the Adventures in Education Program held in Jesse Hal Rotunda for elementary grade students with lots of exhibits by various graduate students and departments with approximately 400 attending the event. Proclamations were made by the Governor and the General Assembly recognizing Graduate Education Week.

Graduate Student Association Report

Ms. Lelekis could not attend the meeting but Dr. Dougherty indicated that GSA had a successful banquet earlier in the month and Disraelly Cruz will be the President next year.

Fellowships and Awards Committee

Dr. Porter indicated the Committee had completed all their work for the year and had given Dr. Justice several suggestions for next year.

Other Business

Dr. Benoit thanked the 2006-07 GFS officers for the service this past year.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm.

Submitted by,

• Ruth Erwin, Administrative Associate I
• Ron Drobney, Associate Dean