The meeting was called to order by President Lee Wilkins at 3:10 p.m. in S203 Memorial Union when a quorum was reached.

Senators and administrative representatives attending: Lee Wilkins, Ian Aberbach, Teresa Cooney, Gail Fitzgerald, Eileen Porter (substituting for Judith Goodman), Ken Shaw, Alan Strathman, Michael Urban, Steve Van Doren, Pat Friedrichsen, Jane Bostick, Jere Gilles, Angela AuBuchon and Kate Hertweck (Graduate Student Association), Sheryl Tucker, Jana Moore, and Ruth Erwin (Graduate School). Guests included: Lisa Flores.

Senators and administrative representatives absent: Sanda Erdelez, Judith Goodman, Andrew Hoberek, Naz Islam, Glenn Leshner, Anthony Lupo, Jan Segert and Pam Benoit (Graduate School).

Introductions were made since several new Senators were attending the meeting.

A motion and second were made to approve the minutes of March 31, 2009. The minutes were approved.

**Graduate School Report**

Dr. Tucker presented the May 2009 tentative Graduate School Commencement list. The tentative list includes 1021 students receiving masters degrees, 25 Educational Specialist degrees, 209 doctoral degrees, 59 students receiving a certificates and 16 students receiving a graduate minor. 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.

**Graduate Student Association**

Ms. AuBuchon announced that GSA had new officers and she would be attend the GFS next year.

**Old Business**

**Election Results**

Dr. Tucker presented the election results.
College of Agriculture, Foods and Natural Resources – Jere Gilles, and Charles Nilon.
College of Education -- Patricia Friedrichsen
Schools of Nursing, Health Professions, Medicine, and Veterinary Medicine – Jane Bostick
Schools of Journalism and Law, and Truman School of Public Affairs – unknown

Dr. Wilkins thanked all the outgoing members of the Senate and welcomed the new members who attended the meeting.
By-Law Revisions

No report.

Senate Composition

Dr. Cooney presented a proposal that she and Dr. Goodman had prepared. The proposal would have each division having at least one representative on the Senate and the President of the Graduate Student Association would also have one representative. In addition, the proportion of the graduate students that each division contributes to the total number of graduate students would be used to determine the number of representatives each division has. They proposed that each division with fewer than 10% of the total number of graduate students would have one guaranteed representative. Divisions with 10-20% of the total numbers would have 2 representatives and graduate enrollments that make up 20-30% of the total number of graduate students would have 3 representatives. Representative composition would be recalculated every three years based on the average graduate student composition for all divisions during that three year period. Issues they pointed out included:

- What are the best numbers to be used in estimating how many graduate students are in each division
- Is it important to “over-represent” A & S due to the diversity of its constituents
- Is it important to have separate DGS representation
- What is the upper bound on total size

Discussion followed. Questions included should a five year running average be used to determine size. Should GFS be based on number of graduate students or graduate faculty membership per division? Should the number to an even or odd number of Senators? Concern was raised if the number of Senators increased to above 19. Also mentioned was reviewing graduation data for the last five years to determine Senate composition.

New Business

Approval of Departmental Doctoral Faculty Criteria

The first item of new business was the doctoral faculty criteria for the Departments of Food Science and Biological Engineering. Discussion followed on the criteria procedures. Dr. Tucker indicated she would contact both departments with concerns raised by the Senate. A motion and second were made to approved the Doctoral Faculty Criteria for the Department of Food Science and the Department of Biological Engineering with Dr. Tucker contacting the Departments to clean up language issues. The motion was approved.

Old Business

Graduate Certificate in Multicultural Research, Training, & Consultation

Dr. Lisa Flores joined the Senate meeting and discussed the Multicultural Research, Training, & Consultation graduate certificate proposal. The certificate program is primarily for school teachers to develop cultural competencies to effectively teach in diverse classrooms. Concerns presented were the need to add an Advisory Board, wish to see more TESOL and
Special Education student needs met, more cultural based class, fear of courses overlapping, and more participating faculty and courses. Dr. Flores indicated the minor is open to any graduate student on campus with the certificate program specifically for K-12 teachers. The Senate requested more information on the certificate. The Certificate was approved via email after the Senate reviewed the additional information.

**New Business**

Designated Graduate Minor in Law and Conflict Resolution

The next item of business was the Designated Graduate Minor in Law and Conflict Resolution. The Academic Affairs did not see any issues with the request. The minor is a dual venture between the School of Law and Ph.D. students in the School of Journalism. The program has existed in the past on the books but has not been a transcriptable minor. The designated graduate minor requires doctoral students in the School of Journalism to take 15 credits at the Law School. There is no priority set for Journalism students to take Law courses. A motion and second were made to approve the Designated Graduate Minor in Law and Conflict Resolution. The motion was approved.

Election of Officers for 2009-10

The following individuals were nominated for GFS officers for 2009-10:

- **President**  
  Michael Urban

- **Vice President**

- **Awards Committee Chair**  
  Gail Fitzgerald

- **Academic Affairs Committee Chair**  
  Teresa Cooney

Dr. Wilkins did not have the name of the Vice Presidential nominee. A motion and second were made to accept the nominations by acclimation with the Vice President name provided for an electronic vote when determination was made for the nominee. The motion was approved.

**Other Business**

Dr. Tucker presented the proposed agenda items for the May 8, 2009 GFS meeting. Items include: the Multicultural Education graduate certificate proposal, Proposed Curriculum Proposals, and how the June 15 deadline for course approvals will be handled. The GFS decided that it would like to handle the agenda items electronically and not meet on May 8 if possible.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

Ruth Erwin  
Graduate School

Sheryl Tucker  
Graduate School