The meeting was called to order by President Tracy Kitchel at 3:30 pm in 2205 A & B Student Center. He asked that everyone introduce themselves since this was the first meeting for Craig Kluever, the new representative for Engineering.

Senators and administrative representatives attending: Doug Bowles, Sounak Chakraborty, Sam Cohen, Signe Cohen, Jeni Hart, Tracy Kitchel, Craig Kluever, Charles Nilon, Jeff Pasley, Earnest Perry, Carol Snively, Janine Stichter, Marty Townsend, Matthew Cook (Graduate Student Association), Leona Rubin, Mannie Liscum, Ashley Siebenaler, and Ruth Erwin (Graduate School), Doug Steinley, Alan Strathman, and Larry Ganong (visitors).

Senators and administrative representatives absent: Ton Stam, and Lisa Zanetti.

A motion and second were made to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2013 with corrections. The motion to approve the corrected minutes was approved.

Dr. Kitchel presented the agenda for the meeting and requested that item 7a be moved to 4 pm when Dr. Steinley could attend the meeting. The revised agenda was accepted.

**Graduate Student Association**

Mr. Cook indicated that for the GSA’s big event, CVdocs, 100 students apply to have their CV reviewed. Fifty three of the students were given priority status. Fourteen faculty members signed up to review the CVs. He indicated that GSA is planning for a more expanded version in the future. He indicated that GSA had awarded 18 travel grants to graduate students for $2600.

**Graduate School Report**

Dr. Rubin indicated that a third letter had been created for adjunct faculty who were nominated for graduate faculty status. Jeni Hart read the statement that was being added for adjunct faculty. “According to the University of Missouri Collected Rules (300.010B) you are not eligible to vote on graduate education issues brought to the faculty by the graduate faculty senate. However, you may be eligible to vote on curricular issues within your academic program. Check with the chair of your department, division or unit about voting membership eligibility.” This statement would let adjunct faculty know that they are not allowed to vote on graduate education issues but may be able to vote on departmental, division, or unit issues depending on the department/division/unit bylaws. This action was in agreement with discussions between GFS and Faculty Council regarding the CRR definition of faculty and the rights conferred. Dr. Rubin indicated that the work on the Affordable Care Act was still going on. The Graduate School is working with Human Resources and Institutional Research on ways to determine how many hours graduate students work. The campus is planning to run a report in December to see which students may be over the 28 hours (maximum). She indicated the group did not know the consequences of the report. Dr. Rubin indicated that three years ago the Missouri Department of Higher Education had a list of low performing programs. She indicated that they wanted an update on the low performing programs and the campus was busy collecting the data including the enrollment in the programs.

**GFS President’s Report**
Dr. Kitchel said that he had met with Truman School of Public Affairs about a possible 3+2 program between Michigan State and MU. A question that comes up is whether students can be admitted into Graduate School with 90 hours. He suggested to TSPA that when they had a rough proposal of their plan that they bring it to the GFS for discussion. The Graduate School and Institutional Research have begun a Quality Assessment Committee that will examine the policies and processes for graduate admissions, financial aid, registration and other back-office processes to determine if and how the 90 credit hours might impact acceptance into Graduate School. Dr. Kitchel indicated that he, Dr. Rubin and Ruth Erwin had been meeting on the curriculum inventory management system (CIM) to make the course proposal system easier. CIM will be an online system. He indicated that he is serving on the Campus Accreditation Committee which will review programs and see if they meet standards. He indicated that the Search Committee has been established for the Vice Provost for Advanced Studies and Dean of the Graduate School. Sanda Erdelez and Bart Wechsler are co-chairing the committee. Drs. Nilon and Perry are also on the Search Committee. Dr. Kitchel said that the Search for the Mizzou Online Director is continuing. The Committee has received 14-15 applications thus far.

**Unfinished Business**

**Consideration of the Graduate Certificate in Positive Psychology (awaiting course approvals)**

Dr. Nilon indicated that the courses listed on the certificate had not been approved yet. He reminded the group that when the certificate was brought to the GFS last month the courses listed on the certificate had either not been submitted for department/college for review or course proposals and syllabi had not been prepared. The individuals discussing the certificate did not realize that the course proposals needed to be approved along with the graduate certificate. The Graduate Certificate in Positive Psychology will remain as unfinished business until the course proposals have been reviewed and approved.

**Reports of Committee**

**Academic Affairs Committee**

Dr. Nilon indicated that the Committee is reviewing five courses and a report on the action will be out soon.

**Awards Committee**

Dr. Bowles indicated that the Committee had finished reviewing the Midwest Association of Graduate School’s Distinguished Master’s Thesis. Their next review will be for the Graduate Mentor award.

**Other New Business**

**Consideration of the MA in Psychometrics**
Dr. Douglas Steinley and Dr. Alan Strathman presented the Department of Psychological Sciences request to change their current Master’s Degree in Quantitative Psychology to a Master’s Degree in Applied Psychometrics. They indicated the need for the change is to bring the title of the degree more in line with industry expectations for those who wish to obtain the Master’s Degree as a terminal degree. The name change to Applied Psychometrics will better convey the nature of student’s training across a wide-range of fields, with primary focus being on testing, assessment, and applied statistics in the behavioral and social sciences. The department indicated that they would be replacing the thesis with more coursework and possibly adding an exam. The new degree will be geared more toward quantitative work and not toward Psychology. The Senate discussed the proposal and suggested that the Department revise its proposal to include some type of capstone experience for the students in the program. This might be, for example, an exam, a paper, or some type of internship or practicum. The consensus was that the capstone experience will be consistent with the policies of the graduate school. Once that revision is made the GFS will expedite the proposal. Dr. Nilon was sending the GFS comments to Drs. Steinley and Strathman.

Consideration of HDFS Emphasis Areas

Dr. Larry Ganong indicated that the Department of Human Development and Family Studies wanted to update their current focus groups into emphasis areas. He indicated that starting a new online program caused the department to re-review its areas. The creation of the four new emphasis areas in their Master’s program will allow the emphasis areas to be recorded on students’ transcripts. The four emphasis areas requested in HDFS are: Family Studies, Lifespan Development, Family and Community Services (Great Plains IDEA), and Early Childhood Development. The Senate discussed the request and a motion and second were made to approve the four emphasis areas, Family Studies, Lifespan Development, Family and Community Services (Great Plains IDEA), and Early Childhood Development for the Master’s Degree in Human Development and Family Studies. The motion was approved.

TOEFL Scores

Dr. Townsend brought to the GFS a request that the group look at what the minimum TOEFL score should be on campus. The GFS set the current TOEFL score of 500 paper-based and 61 internet-based. It was decided that both AAU and SEC schools should be polled for their TOEFL score to compare with MU. A motion and second were made to move this to a Committee for review with Marty Townsend as Chair and Craig Kluever, Matthew Cook and Charlie Nilon serving on the Committee. Dr. Rubin will serve as an ex officio member. The motion was approved.

Plan/Actions for Improving Bylaws

Dr. Kitchel referred to the dissolution request from the NSEI faculty. The Senate chose not to act on dissolution and indicated that they felt the mechanism to recall a Senator in Section 17 of the bylaws spelled out how to recall a Senator.

Next the GFS reviewed questions raised regarding the Graduate Faculty Senate including definition of graduate faculty types, representation, faculty voice, powers of graduate faculty and GFS, transparency and clarity, and how the GFS operates as a body. Dr. Kitchel felt there
were five topics that the GFS could review and discuss and those topics could be divided into two committees. He asked the representatives to email him which committee they would like to serve on. He would like each group to bring back to the whole Senate their ideas and decide what the next steps would be. Several felt that whatever was decided may need graduate faculty vote regardless if the bylaws do not require such action. It was suggested that the committees work to come up with suggestions, and the GFS vet the suggestions. Then the Senators would take the final suggestions to their units and get their feedback along with a campus forum to voice faculty opinion. The GFS would then reconsider the feedback and vote.

The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.

Submitted by,

Ruth Erwin
Graduate School