Minutes of the Graduate Faculty Senate
March 22, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Urban at 3:30 pm in S204 Memorial Union.

Senators and administrative representatives attending: Lloyd Barrow, Jane Bostick, James Endersby, Sandra Erdelez, Pat Friedrichsen, Sanjeev Khanna, Lynda Kraxberger, Charles Nilon, Carol Snively, Mike Urban, Claire Horisk (substituting for Peter Vallentyne), John Wigger, Meredith Dorneker (Graduate Student Association), George Justice, and Ruth Erwin (Graduate School).

Senators and administrative representatives absent: Mary Grigsby (substituting for Jere Gilles), Glenn Leshner, and Ken Shaw.

A motion and second were made to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2011. The motion was approved.

Dr. Urban indicated New Business Item 7a “Dual enrollment comparison of peer institutions” needed to be tabled until the April meeting. He also said that discussion on Item 8a Gerontological Social Work graduate certificate proposal would be move up on the agenda following the Curriculum Form Online Demo because Dr. Snively needed to leave early to teach.

**Graduate School Report**

Dr. Justice reported that Graduate Education Week would be April 16-23 with Adventures in Education starting off Graduate Education on Saturday, April 16. He indicated that if departments would like to have a booth at Adventures in Education please let him know. The primary audience for Adventure in Education is elementary age students and their parents. He extended an invitation to the GFS to attend the Awards Reception on April 20 in Columns C in the Reynolds Alumni Center. Dr. Justice announced that he had received permission to hire an Associate Graduate Dean in the fall and interested individual should contact him. He thanked Meredith Dorneker for her work with GSA this past week. Dr. Justice informed the group that the student insurance would remain the same next year but under the Health Care Act the amount the University provided for student insurance may increase 17% in FY13. He indicated that GFS may want to get involved in the discussion on student health insurance since this is a large item of the MU budget. MU pays more for student insurance that any of the other 3 campuses from its subsided budget.

**Graduate Student Association**

Ms. Dorneker announced GSA representatives and Dr. Justice met with a representative from the Cashiers Office related to the finance fees that are assessed on students who pre-enroll and do not have fee waivers in place when the first bill is due for a semester. She indicated that the Cashiers Office will push back the billing date. This will be beneficial for both departments and students. It will allow departments to have a better idea of which of these students would available to teach classes, and know how many would be enrolled in classes and students would be able to pre-enroll and not wait until the last minute. She indicated that at the GSA meeting tonight they would be discussing changes to their Constitution, elections, and their relationship with the GPC.

**Committee Reports**
Dr. Friedrichsen announced that she would be working on the GFS elections. There are five open slots. She indicated that she would be working through the College Deans for nominees and asked the Senators for names of individuals they felt might be interested in serving on the GFS.

Dr. Snively indicated that she did not have any report for the Academic Affairs Committee. Dr. Justice thanked the Committee for their work on the Curriculum Proposal and their guidance made it easy for his review and approval.

Dr. Bostick indicated that the Awards Committee was reviewing the last group of awards. She indicated that they received 10 applications for the GRA award and 14 applications for the GTA award.

**Old Business**

**Curriculum Form Online Demo**

Carla Whitney, Assistant Registrar, introduced Leigh Durdle, Jeffrey Friel and Ying Liu who provided a demo on the new Curriculum Form that would be available online for departments to use. The Senators introduced themselves to the Registrar staff. Ms. Whitney indicated that presentations would begin to the Undergraduate Deans in April. The Senators offered suggestions and comments regarding the online form. Dr. Snively volunteered to review the site for the GFS to see if it will meet the Academic Affairs Committee and DGS’s needs.

**Gerontological Social Work Graduate Certificate Proposal**

Dr. Snively indicated that the Gerontological Social Work Graduate Certificate proposal was similar to the Military Social Work approved by the Senate in April 2010. One of the two components of the certificate is for MSW degree seeking students who will have an option of doing a Policy, Planning & Administration Option or a Clinical Option. The certificate will consist of two required course plus one elective course in Policy, Planning & Administration or Clinical and one interdisciplinary course along with completing the SW field placement. The Policy, Planning & Administration Option will require an additional course in order to fulfill the 12 credit hour requirement. The second component is for Non Degree Seeking students who have a MSW. They can complete the certificate with 12 hours of coursework, six hours of which are required, one elective specific to Gerontological Social Work and one interdisciplinary course. Since the MSW degree practitioners are already engaged in professional practices, they are not required to complete the field placement requirement. Dr. Urban read the comments provided by the Eric Praschan who reviewed the certificate for the Graduate School.

> After review of the Gerontological Social Work Graduate Certificate proposal, it can be confirmed that the proposal meets the minimum requirements of the Graduate School for a Graduate Certificate.

> Furthermore, in comparison with the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology from the Human Development and Family Studies program, it appears that the Gerontological Social Work Graduate Certificate will be distinctive and dissimilar enough in methodology and availability so as to warrant its implementation.

- It seems the Gerontological Social Work Graduate Certificate will focus primarily upon the integrative and hands-on practice of care for the elderly, while the HDFS Gerontology Graduate Certificate focuses more on study and research, with the inclusion of some practice.
- Also, the HDFS Certificate is available exclusively on-line, while the Social Work Certificate is not primarily available on-line.
• The Gerontological Social Work Graduate Certificate will also require a 2nd year field placement, a requirement not applicable for the HDFS Gerontology Certificate.
• The Gerontological Social Work Certificate makes available the on-line course HDFS 7252 “Adult Development” as one of three possible Interdisciplinary courses from which a student in the Certificate program must choose, and although this is a required course for the HDFS Gerontology Certificate, it appears that this would be the only possible shared course between the two Certificate programs.
• Based on this assessment, the coursework between the two Certificates seems distinct enough to maintain a separate focus and methodology for each Certificate program.

It was noted that the Human Development and Family Studies Graduate Certificate in Gerontology approved last month by the Senate and the Gerontological Social Work Graduate Certificate are different certificates with different populations being served by graduate certificates. A motion and second were made to approve the Gerontological Social Work Graduate Certificate. The motion was approved.

Program Review Discussion
Shared Services

Dr. Urban directed the Senators to the February minutes where the information for the discussion could be found. Discussion items included: shared services might be hard in cross disciplines, shared services might have to be different grouping for different audiences, and big departments would benefit with shared services, and this could promote information sharing between departments. Dr. Urban noted that there are opportunities beyond what he wrote as a draft document. Initially he was trying to determine ways that would help smaller departments and give them more support. An idea suggested was having a Blackboard group of the DGS’s who could indicate courses, seminars, etc. that each department was offering in order to assist students in their search for courses that interested them on a particular topic. Could the Graduate School serve as a clearinghouse for syllabi? A future issue would be for each graduate student to complete a research ethics course. How do departments share information, facilities, resources and methodology, etc.? Who and how would this be paid for? Students also may need more technical writing courses. Are there enough writing courses on campus? Would more writing courses help international students? Departments would need to figure out the critical parts of the courses if they were to share courses so as to not create more work. Departments sharing research courses could cover basic information in the first portion of a class and then break into more specific components for each specific department. Could have a separate research design course for humanities, sciences, social sciences, physical sciences and then specifics related to the student’s particular department. Departments could offer more advanced courses after the basic course. Dr. Justice asked the group if they would like to invite Pat Morton to present his budgeting model which allocates dollars across the campus. It is a RCM model and has been adopted by Big 10 universities. The Deans and the Arts and Science chairs have seen the presentation. Mr. Morton’s model is a critical issue for graduate education. If campus were to adopt a RCM plan it could be implemented as early as 2013-4. Dr. Justice indicated the presentation would take an hour. The group did not want to give up additional time for their remaining meetings this semester. Dr. Justice indicated that he would set up an alternative date and time for the presentation by Mr. Morton that Senators could attend. Dr. Urban
asked for a volunteer to assist him with a draft on shared services prior to the April meeting. Dr. Erdelez volunteered.

**Peer Institution Graduate Program Evaluation**

Dr. Nilon indicated that they are still working on the Peer Institution Graduate Program Evaluation and that he needed to set up a meeting for the subcommittee with Dr. Justice. Follow up will be provided at the April meeting.

**New Business**

**Openness, Transparency and Thesis Disclosure Policy**

Dr. Urban indicated there are departments on campus that do not want their students’ thesis available to the public. Dr. Urban indicated that he informed Dr. Rob Duncan that he would be willing to sit in on meetings related to the topic. Since Dr. Urban does not feel that the issue will be resolved in the next two months before his GFS term ends he asked the group to think about having an additional person from the GFS whose term does not end this year to sit in on the meetings. Professor Kraxberger volunteered. This would allow for continuity and feedback to the GFS.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Submitted by

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