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

Senators and administrative representatives attending: Mike Urban, Ian Aberbach, Jane Bostick, Patricia Friedrichsen, Gail Fitzgerald, Jere Gilles, Lynda Kraxberger, Glenn Leshner, Charles Nilon, Jan Segert, Carol Snively, George Justice, Jana Moore and Ruth Erwin (Graduate School). Guest: Margie Sable.

Senators and administrative representatives absent: Ellie Ragland, Alan Strathman, and Patrick Wheeler and Angela AuBuchon (Graduate Student Association representative).

A motion and second were made to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2010 meeting. The minutes were approved.

**Graduate School Report**

Dr. Justice reported that Graduate Education Week had been very successful. He indicated that Dr. Friedrichsen was the recipient of the MU Graduate Faculty Mentor award. He hoped in the future that more of the GFS Awards Committee will be able to attend the event. Other events during Graduate Education Week included the Graduate Professional Council Legislative Awards Reception honoring 3 Senators and 3 representatives, Adventures in Education, which had over 200 children attend, and the annual Thank You Breakfast for departmental contacts who contribute to graduate education.

Dr. Justice indicated the format for the Retreat would have three individuals leading discussions on various topics that would lead into discussion by the entire group. The event would begin with a box lunch, afternoon of discussion, and a reception at the end of the day. He indicated that it was very important that all Senators who could attend the event that would include the Provost Staff and other interested faculty.
Dr. Justice presented the May 2010 tentative Graduate School Commencement list. The tentative list includes 930 students receiving masters degrees, 23 Educational Specialist degrees, 236 doctoral degrees, 73 students receiving a certificates and 20 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.

Dr. Urban congratulated Dr. Justice on his promotion to Vice Provost for Advanced Studies and Dean of the Graduate School. The Senate endorsed the congratulations. Dr. Justice thanks the GFS representative, Alan Strathman, for his service on the Search Committee.

**Graduate Student Association**

No report.

**Committee Reports**

Dr. Fitzgerald indicated that this year the GFS Awards Committee worked with Blackboard on reviewing the various awards and that the process worked well. She suggested that the Awards Committee revise the deadlines for next year and have various members of the committee review the nominations and then have the Committee review the top 3-4 ranked nominees to determine a winner.

Dr. Leshner did not have a report from the Academic Affairs Committee.

**Election of GFS representatives**

Dr. Urban indicated that Dr. Sanda Erdelez was elected from the College of Education replacing Gail Fitzgerald. Elections still needed to be completed in the College of Engineering and the College of Arts and Science along with the Director of Graduate Studies representatives.

**Special Business**
Graduate Certificate in Military Social Work

Drs. Sable and Snively gave an overview of the Graduate Certificate in Military Social Work. The graduate certificate is designed to expand the pool of professionals who are qualified to work in settings with military personnel, veterans, and their families. The certificate would focus on clinical practice strategies of social work intervention with military personnel and their families to improve the mental health and health of this population. The certificate would better prepare students to work in situations that include VA hospitals and homeless shelters.

The certificate would include two new interdisciplinary classes; Military Culture: Issues for Helping Professionals and Social Work Practice in Military Settings. The third course is a clinical course, Trauma Practice and Crisis Intervention, with the fourth course being an elective. The certificate is designed for Social Work students in the clinical track or someone with a MSW employed in clinical work. The certificate could be offered either online or in combination with on campus courses. For degree-seeking students they would be able to complete the courses during their plan of study with one additional course. Non-degree seeking students who already have a MSW the certificate would be a stand-alone certificate and they should be able to complete the coursework within two years.

Discussion followed. A motion and second were made to approve the Graduate Certificate in Military Social Work. The motion was approved.

Proposal to Alter Grading Policy of the Graduate School to allow for Plus/Minus Grades

Drs. Friedrichsen and Gilles presented a draft Graduate Grade Policy Proposal. Dr. Urban indicated that no new issues had arisen from the request made to the Directors of Graduate Studies to review the proposal. It was noted the professor must inform students whether he/she will be using +/− or regular (A-F) grading in the syllabus. A motion with amended change was made and seconded. The motion was approved with 9 yes, 1 no, and 1 abstention vote.

Proposal to Establish Affiliate Graduate Faculty Status
Discussion was held on the proposed Affiliate Graduate Faculty Membership proposal. It was indicated that the proposal was not to exclude faculty from being appointed to the graduate faculty but to make it easier for departments to have faculty teach graduate-level courses at the 7000-8000 level. Department would be able to chose whether they wished their faculty to either have graduate faculty or affiliate graduate faculty status. Individuals who were nominated for affiliate graduate faculty could be changed graduate faculty status. Affiliate graduate faculty status would be effective for five years, but may be renewed at the request of the member’s home department. A motion and second were made to approve the proposal. The motion was approved. Dr. Justice would talk to the Provost and Deputy Provost regarding implementation of the new status.

Selection of Representatives to Standing Committees

The selection of representatives to the Standing Committees was tabled to the incompletion of the election of new representatives.

Election of Officers

The following were elected for offices:

President Mike Urban  
Vice President Patricia Friedrichsen  
Member at Large Lynda Kraxberger  
Awards Jane Bostick  
Academic Affairs Carol Snively

Dr. Urban thanked Drs. Fitzgerald and Leshner for the service as Chairs of the Awards and Academic Affairs Committees for the past year.

He also thanked the outgoing Senators for the service to the Graduate Faculty Senate for the past three years.
The Senate also thanked Dr. Urban for his service as President for the past year.

The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.

Submitted by,

Ruth Erwin

Graduate School