Minutes of the Graduate Faculty Senate
May 1, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Charles Nilon at 3:30 pm in 2205 A&B MU Student Center. The Senators introduced themselves to the guests and new Senators attending the meeting.

Senators and administrative representatives attending: James Endersby, Sanda Erdelez, Pat Friedrichsen, Jeni Hart, Sanjeev Khanna, Tracy Kitchel, Lynda Kraxberger, Charles Nilon, Earnest Perry, Carol Snively, Peter Vallentyne, Erica Thieman (Graduate Student Association), George Justice, Mannie Liscum, Ashley Siebenaler, and Ruth Erwin (Graduate School), Joseph Scogin, Pat Okker and Dan French (visitors).


A motion and second were made to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2012. The motion was approved. A later request was made by Dr. Justice to rewrite Graduate School portion of the March 20 minutes. A motion and second was made to allow Dr. Justice to rewrite the Graduate School’s section of the March 20 minutes. The motion was approved.

**Graduate School Report**

Ms. Siebenaler presented the May 2012 tentative Graduate School Commencement list for the Senators to review. The approval would be handled later in the meeting in order to give Senators time to review the list.

Dr. Justice indicated that this was a busy time for the Graduate School. The first Graduate School event was its annual Adventures in Education event and this year the event had the largest number of attendees. Dr. Justice indicated that he had attended the Midwest Association of Graduate Schools annual meeting in Minneapolis this month and he stated that he will be the Vice President of the organization next year. The Graduate School held its annual Thank You Breakfast for Directors of Graduate Studies, department/program staff contacts and support staff where the 2012 Graduate Support Staff award and the 2012 Director of Graduate Studies Outstanding Contribution award was presented. Also the Graduate School Awards Reception was held to honor the Anderson Teaching and Research awardees, Outstanding Faculty Mentor and other awardees. Then last Saturday Dr. Justice attended a meeting on graduate leadership and development events where the planning meeting was over five hours. He indicated that students and Deans were both interested in the event. The event will help students understand the leadership of academic institutions. And the semester finale will be the Graduate School Commencement ceremony on May 12.

**Graduate Student Association**

Erica Thieman showed the new GSA websites and the recipients of the GSA faculty mentor and outstanding graduate student awardees. She indicated that the new website was bringing the organization into the 21st century. The applications for their travel awards are now online for students to access. She indicated that the GSA banquet was held off campus this year and it had a large turnout. The GSA officers will be having a summer retreat to determine ways to increase membership.
Committee Reports

Dr. Snively presented the following report on Course Proposal Review:

The Academic Affairs Committee reviewed 2 complete course proposals and one independent study course proposal for (see list below) that were submitted to the Graduate School by April 1st. The two course proposals were approved after changes were made to the original syllabi to clarify the additional work required to take the course for graduate credit.

**April 2012 Approved Courses:**

- **7370 Orthopedic Biomechanics** (Vet Med & Surgery, crosslisted with Bio Engr 7370)
  - From Patty Luckenote: OK - needs Engr Dean Signature. Bio Eng 4370/7370 has been approved and is currently listed in the catalog.
  - From Senator Review: Approved with changes made to syllabus to clarify graduate requirements.

- **7310 Foundations of Occupational Therapy** (Occupational Therapy, crossleveled with 4310)
  - From Patty Luckenote: OK. The undergraduate OT 4310 is already listed in the catalog.
  - From Senator Review: Approved with changes made to syllabus to clarify graduate requirements.

- **9401 Doctoral Research Problems in Accounting**
  - From Patty Luckenote: Looks ok.
  - From Senator Review: This is an indep study so there is no syllabus for the committee to review.

Dr. Vallentyne indicated that the Awards Committee was finished for the year.

**New Business**

**Visitors**

**Dr. Joseph Scogin** made a presentation on the Role of Graduate Education and MU Athletics. He indicated that approximately 75-80 current and former athletes are pursuing their graduate education. And approximately 30 are still competing in athletics while working on a graduate degree. For staff graduate assistant positions the Athletics Department hired 13-15 former student athletes as graduate assistants. Students working in Athletics take courses in the summer and also online to work with their schedule. He indicated that Dr. Justice and Andrew Grabau worked to fund an assistantship for former athletes who need funding for their graduate program. He indicated that a large number of athletes do not complete their graduate education. He said that eight football players will start their graduate coursework this summer. He noted that the athletes have four years of college eligibility for playing sports and due to various reasons that is why sometimes a graduate student is still able to compete in college sports. He said that the Athletics Department also had approximately 120 tutors that assist the athletes when they have difficulties in their coursework.

**Dr. Pat Okker**, who is a Faculty Fellow in the Provost Office, gave an oversight on program review. She indicated that she is working on a project on program assessment that occurs every five to seven years checking the attention to student learning. Every degree program has a description of what their degree is and what students should take for the degree. She indicated that she is trying to get faculty to have learning objectives for students and has had dialogues with departments on what their goals are for their students. She is interested in getting many useful documents for departments and not having to pull out materials every five to seven years to review. There was a discussion of what might apply for all graduate degrees and ideas for a template for departments to choose from. This is being done now for certificates. Graduate
goals are now tied with student assessment. She asked if any Senators would be willing to work on a committee to determine what outcome should be on courses, programs, etc. Representation should come from the hard sciences, soft sciences and education. Drs. Snively, Kitchel, Hart, Khanna, and Nilon indicated willingness to work with Drs. Okker and Justice on the project.

Dr. Dan French presented information on the proposed M.S. in Finance degree program that he hopes will be ready for the Senate approval in the fall. He provided a one page summary on the program. He indicated that a survey was done to see what the demand was for the Master of Science in Finance degree. He said that Florida State and Ohio State started a program three years ago and Maryland started one last year and all three schools indicated that they met and exceed their goal of students in the first year. He indicated that the demand is from both foreign and domestic students. He said the departmental faculty had met several times and had amended the original proposal which is why formal documentation would not be seen by the GFS until fall. He indicated that Dean Gable was supportive and had also helped with the proposal. The MS in Finance will be a specialized degree. He indicated that this could be a revenue plan but no decision has been made on where the revenue would go. He also stated that the MS in Finance does not compete with the Personal Financial Planning degree and that a possible future component of the MS in Finance could be an online component.

Tentative Graduate School Commencement List

After the Senators had a chance to review the tentative Graduate School Commencement list 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.

Recognition of Outgoing GFS Representatives

Dr. Nilon recognized Pat Friedrichsen and Lynda Kraxberger for their service on the GFS for the past three years. Also ending their service on the GFS will be Jere Gilles and Jane Bostick who were unable to attend the meeting along with Patrick Wheeler who is moving to the University of South Florida.

New Incoming Representatives

The new incoming representatives were announced.

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources -- Tracy Kitchel from Agricultural Education and Charles Nilon from Fisheries and Wildlife

Education/Information Science & Learning Technologies -- Jeni Hart from Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis

Nursing/Health Professions/Medicine/Veterinary Medicine -- Douglas Bowles from Biomedical Sciences

Business/Accountancy - Ton Stam will be completing Patrick Wheeler’s unexpired term (note this was determined after the GFS meeting on May 1)

Schools of Journalism and Law and Truman School of Public Affairs -- Earnest Perry from Journalism
Election of Officers
The following volunteered to serve as officers for 2012-13

President            Sanda Erdelez
Vice President       Sanjeev Khanna
Member at Large      Earnest Perry
Academic Affairs Chair  Carol Snively
Awards Chair         Peter Vallentyne

Dr. Snively asked which Senators had the responsibility to review this summer’s courses. It was
determined that the current Senators would continue to review the courses this summer. Dr.
Nilon indicated that he would also help.

A motion and second were made to approve the slate of officers presented. The motion was
approved.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm and everyone was invited to attend an end of the year
event at the Heidelberg.

Submitted by

Ruth Erwin
Graduate School