The meeting was called to order by President Lee Wilkins at 3:00 pm in B234 Brady Commons.

Senators and administrative representatives attending: Lee Wilkins, Ian Aberbach, Stephanie Craft, Tom Dougherty, Mark Fine, Gail Fitzgerald, James McGlew, Eileen Porter, Ellie Ragland, Jan Segert, Paul Speckman, Steve Van Doren, William Alexander (Graduate Student Association), Pam Benoit, Sheryl Tucker, Jana Moore and Ruth Erwin (Graduate School).

Senators absent: Margaret Grogan, Naz Islam, and Tony Lupo.

A motion and second were made to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2007 meeting. Dr. Porter noted corrections in the discussion of the motions on Graduate Faculty membership that needed to be included with the bylaws to clarify the meaning. Motion was approved.

**Graduate School Report**

Dr. Benoit indicated that the NRC ratings for universities will be announced February 15. She indicated that universities will hear more about the NRC ratings at the December annual meeting of Council of Graduate Schools. One of the concerns she hopes will be addressed at the meeting is how much time universities will have to review the ratings before the information is released. Dr. Wilkins asked that Dr. Benoit provide information at the next meeting on the 1995 NRC ratings.

Dr. Benoit gave the Senate an overview of the computer error in which prospective students received e-mails from the Graduate School about their pawprint access. She indicated that the students did not receive a formal acceptance letter and did not receive admission to their programs. This e-mail is designed to be sent to students who have been admitted to the Graduate School and provides the student with a pawprint. The pawprint section of the e-mail was blank. These students were individuals who had not completed the admission process and/or had not yet been reviewed by programs. Within 12 hours a corrected second email was sent to the students indicating that their applications were still under review. The Graduate School responded to student inquiries about the e-mail and the status of their applications.

**Graduate Student Association**

Mr. Alexander indicated that GSA is working with departments to host recruiting receptions for prospective students. They are trying to determine which departmental recruitment weekends work with the organization’s goal to meet
with prospective students. He also stated that this year GSA is trying to interact with other organizations on campus. One example of a recent activity was GSA participation in the CV Doctor workshop.

Committee Reports

Academic Affairs -- no report

Awards -- Dr. Porter indicated that the Master Thesis Award was due on November 5 and the Outstanding Departmental Contribution to Graduate Education was due December 13 and the Committee would be reviewing nominations for each. She indicated that this year the Committee would not be involved with the Supplemental Graduate Fellowship selection since Dr. Justice is asking graduate faculty across campus to assist. Members of the Awards Committee can volunteer to be on the review committee if they wish.

Old Business

Dr. Wilkins indicated that Frank Schmidt could not attend the meeting. She provided additional information that she had learned from him. The workload issue was in response to CBHE. She indicated that within the state of Missouri there are different types of institutions, i.e. Research 1 institutions, four year state universities, junior colleges. The workload issue would give MU credit for working with graduate students. Other universities give credit to faculty for working with undergraduates, graduates and for advising students along with credit for their teaching load. It was important that the type of work done at MU be recognized in a funding formula. A possible suggestion being discussed at Faculty Council was supervising 8 doctoral dissertation would equate to the same as teaching one course. Discussion followed.

Dr. Benoit recommended that Pat Morton be invited to the next GFS meeting to provide further information on the funding formula discussion.

Steve Graham, Vice President for Academic Affairs, joined the meeting. He indicated that the workload policy was designed to reflect the diverse types of work that faculty engage in and to provide flexibility in accounting for their activities. The workload policy was initiated in 2002 and was the product of extensive discussions of a committee composed of members of Interfaculty Council, Provosts, and other faculty members. Based on these discussions, the committee recommended that the average instructional responsibility for all regular faculty members on each campus would be 9 section credits per semester and 180 student credit hours per academic year. Each department was asked to develop a faculty workload standard for teaching, research, service, and administration. Each faculty member would submit an annual report of faculty activities and the department chair would compare these activities to the standard and indicate reasons for waivers that were aligned with the
department’s workload standards, consistent with the campus goals, and commensurate with research, individual instruction and advising, administrative duties, service assignments, sabbaticals, faculty development leaves. Dr. Graham indicated that the Regular Faculty Workload Policy is available in the Collected Rules and Regulations of the University under 310.080 and was last revised in 2004 after an Executive Order issued in April 2004. Discussion and questions followed.

New Business

EMERGE and Multicultural Teaching Scholars Programs

Norma Jackson gave the group an overview on two programs under the Graduate School. She provided a handout on the seventh-annual summer 2008 Multicultural Teaching Scholars Program. The program is designed to enhance the ability of departments to recruit members of underrepresented groups for future employment at MU and prepare MU graduate and undergraduate students for the future by introducing them to a faculty more representative of the diversity of our society. Proposals are due in the Graduate School by December 3. A second program that Ms. Jackson works with is the EMERGE Program. She indicated that ten undergraduate students will be on campus for the fall preview weekend on October 25-28. They are primarily seniors who come to campus and meet with various interested departments, attend workshops on graduate education, tour campus and Columbia to learn more about MU. She provided a handout on the schedule and students who will be visiting. Ms. Jackson indicated that the Graduate School also has a summer research internship program for junior or seniors. She works with the students who were selected for the program to insure that they have a rewarding research experience with a campus mentor and department and hopefully return to MU for graduate school.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Erwin
Administrative Associate I
Pam Benoit
Vice Provost for Advanced Studies
And Dean of the Graduate School