The meeting was called to order by President Lee Wilkins at 3:00 p.m. in S016 Memorial Union.

Senators and administrative representatives attending: Lee Wilkins, Ian Aberbach, Teresa Cooney, Kim Thompson (substituting for Sanda Erdelez), Gail Fitzgerald, Judith Goodman, Andrew Hoberek, Glenn Leshner, Anthony Lupo, Alan Strathman, Michael Urban, Steve Van Doren, Kate Hertweck (Graduate Student Association), Pam Benoit, Sheryl Tucker, and Ruth Erwin (Graduate School), Joe Tillman (Learning, Teaching, and Curriculum) and Sandy Sites (MU Direct).

Senators and administrative representatives absent: Naz Islam, Jan Segert, Ken Shaw, and Jana Moore.

A motion and second were made to approve the minutes of September 30, 2008. The minutes were approved.

**Graduate School Report**

**Graduate Enrollment and Degree Trends**

Dr. Benoit provided a handout that presented data on national graduate enrollment and degree trends and how MU compares with the trends. National data shows that graduate enrollments increased 3% in 2006-07 and MU change for 2007-08 was 6%. One of the reasons for the overall increase is the increase in enrollment by women. On MU campus 63% of the enrollment is in masters programs and 35% doctoral programs. Dr. Benoit indicated with public and private institutions within the state now offering doctoral degrees MU can not say that they offer the most doctoral degrees in the state. The same statement is holding true with some masters degrees.

**NRC Report**

Dr. Benoit provided an update on the NRC. She indicated that the statistical methodology report was still projected to be out in late October with the report due out in January.

**Graduate Student Association**

Ms. Hertweck indicated that the GSA was co-sponsoring a debate between Chris Kelly and Ed Robb on higher education on Wednesday, October 29. She indicated they were still accepting questions for the candidates.

**Old Business**
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

Dr. Tillman provided the Senate with background on the TESOL program. It was established 3 years ago as an online program with a federal grant for the campus program. He indicated the department had received inquiries on a TESOL certificate and he prepared a proposal. He indicated the certificate program had 3 audiences: in-state students, domestic students outside Missouri, and international students. He indicated the certificate had different requirements for MU students who wish to receive professional certificate due to Missouri’s Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. For Missouri students DESE mandates that the students complete 21 hours of coursework. He indicated that faculty working with the program will advise MU students of the DESE requirements. Dr. Tillman indicated that the professional organization requires that a student only complete 15 hours. A question was raised on who would benefit from the certificate. Dr. Tillman indicated that few Missouri teachers would benefit, domestically individuals in other states would use for teaching English in their states, but the majority of the students would come from overseas individuals who either are teaching English or want to teach English. He indicated that the TOEFL score was the recommendation from the professional organization. He indicated that the on-campus and the on-line programs were mirrors of each other and not competing programs. He indicated that a Master in TESOL is more common. After Dr. Tillman left the Senate discussed the certificate proposal and requested more information before they can make a decision. They are requesting: comparison with other programs in the United States, standards established by the professional organization, justification for the 550 TOEFL, how quality control would be maintained, how the program would be marketed, how the program would handle a teaching practicum and face to face aspect of the certificate.

New Business

Change in date for December 2 meeting

With both Drs. Benoit and Tucker out of town on December 2 attending the Council of Graduate Schools annual meeting, a request was made to change the date of the November/December meeting to Tuesday, December 9.

Revision of Bylaws

Dr. Tucker indicated that she had reviewed the GFS Bylaws and there were many inconsistencies of them. She indicated that she would put the tracked changes on Blackboard for Senate review. The Executive Committee will work on correcting/revising the Bylaws.

Courses for Graduate Certificates

Dr. Tucker indicated that a department had asked about using 9000 level courses for graduate certificates. The current information lists 7000 and 8000 level courses. It also
spells out that 1000-6999 can not be used. The Senate indicated that they could see no reason why 9000 level courses could not be included in courses specified for graduate certificates.

**Status of Certificate Review**

Dr. Tucker indicated that the GFS had recently requested information on the status of the 5- year review of graduate certificates. She indicated that four proposals had been approved – 2 from Accountancy, 1 from Conservation Biology, and 1 from Geological Information Systems. She indicated in the information provided some certificates indicated that they have tweaked their proposals. Three certificates were still due in her office. In some cases she felt that with the ones still due directions and circumstances may have changes and the certificates may not be viable any more.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m. with the next meeting to be Tuesday, December 9 with location to be determined [location S204 Memorial Union].

Submitted by,

Ruth Erwin
Graduate School

Sheryl Tucker
Graduate School