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

Senators and administrative representatives attending: Mike Urban, Ian Aberbach, Jane Bostick, Patricia Friedrichsen, Gail Fitzgerald, Glenn Leshner, Lynda Kraxberger, Ellie Ragland, Jan Segert, Carol Snively, Angela AuBuchon (Graduate Student Association), George Justice, Jana Moore, and Ruth Erwin (Graduate School). Also attending Mary Licklider (Grantsmanship Graduate Certificate), Janet Farmer and Robin Marsh (Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders Graduate Certificate).

Senators and administrative representatives absent: Jere Gilles, Naz Islam, Charles Nilon, Ken Shaw, and Alan Strathman.

Introductions were made by the two new Senators: Lynda Kraxberger representing the Schools of Journalism and Law and Truman School of Public Affairs and Carol Snively, replacing Teresa Cooney, and representing Human Environmental Sciences and Social Work.

A motion and second were made to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2009 meeting. The minutes were approved.

**Graduate School Report**

Dr. Justice announced that a national search would be conducted this fall for the Vice Provost for Advanced Studies and Dean of the Graduate School position. He indicated that James Thompson and Lee Wilkins would be co-chairing the Search Committee. Dr Urban indicated that Alan Strathman would be representing the GFS on the Committee.

Dr. Justice also announced that even though the final census for the fall enrollment had not finalized master enrollment was up 1.2-1.4% and doctoral enrollment was up 3.1%. He indicated that he would discuss graduate numbers and enrollment numbers at the next meeting.

**Graduate Student Association**

Ms. AuBuchon indicated that GSA was continuing long range projects on graduate student/parents and child care and graduate insurance. She announced that GSA had a new web page and wanted to feature graduate student travel awardees on their page.

**Old Business**

**Standing Committee Assignments for New Members**

Those two new Senators and those missing the last meeting chose their committee assignments.

The final Committee assignments are as follows:
New Business

Dr. Urban gave an overview on a new process the GFS is going to try to streamline the procedures that have slowed down graduate certificates, degree programs, etc. over the past several years. In the past for graduate certificate reviews the full proposal has gone to the Graduate School for their review, and then posted on Blackboard for the Academic Affairs review and discussion before coming to the full Senator for their discussion. He indicated that today would be an experiment. The Grantsmanship Graduate Certificate would be handled the old way where it was posted on Blackboard and Academic Affairs reviewed over the summer. Mary Licklider will come and make a presentation and answer questions on the certificate. The Thompson Center will present their certificate proposal in a different way. The proposal will be discussed by the Thompson Center today. Things to look for are: Is the educational objective for the certificate appropriate? How programs affect course offerings and units on campus. Whether there is a need in a target market. The Thompson Center graduate certificate will be discussed at the next meeting with a vote taken.

Grantsmanship Graduate Certificate

A question was raised prior to Mary Licklider’s presentation regarding the necessity of instructors having a higher degree than the students they teach. It was noted that one requirement of the graduate faculty was a terminal degree and that the terminal degree is not always the doctoral degree.

Dr. Licklider addressed the issue of only one instructor currently on the graduate faculty. She indicated that they were encouraged to put the proposal forward then put the graduate faculty applications through after approval of the certificate. Dr. Licklider was asked if the graduate certificate would be offered online or on campus. Dr. Licklider indicated that primarily it would be an online certificate but was written so that it could be offered through both venues. One of the courses is currently a summer on-campus course, which has cap of 25 students. She indicated that the target audience would be professionals working in nonprofits, who need more expertise and the need to be more marketable; or academics either graduate students who chose a research career or post docs and young faculty, who want to make themselves marketable. This is a community based certificate where an individual can take one course or complete the entire certificate. Graduate students may only take 1-2 of the courses. Post docs could take 1 course per semester and then receive a certificate while doing their post doc. Dr. Licklider indicated that the first course is scheduled to be offered in January. A question was raised about international students participating since the first two courses are writing intensive. Dr. Licklider indicated that since students do group work this would not be a problem. A question was raised about CEU’s for the courses. After Dr. Licklider left, further discussion followed on who will oversee that the courses are taught by graduate faculty.
Truman School of Public Affairs will have the responsibility to insure that instructors are members of the graduate faculty. It was also noted that since this a Graduate School certificate the students entering the program must meet the minimum admissions requirements to take the courses. A motion and second to approve the Grantmanship Graduate Certificate. The motion was approved.

Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders Graduate Certificate
Robin Marsh and Janet Farmer gave the presentation for the certificate. They indicated that 8 different units on campus have joined them in alliance on the certificate. They included: Communication Science and Disorders, Human Development and Family Studies, Sinclair School of Nursing, Occupational Therapy & Occupational Science, Physical Medicine & Reh/TIPS Program, Physical Therapy, School of Social Work, and Special Education/Early Special Education. They indicated that the educational objective of the certificate is to expand the pool of qualified professionals with specialized knowledge in the field of autism & neurodevelopmental disorders and to help students acquire professional skills and explore the possibility of a more advanced degree. They have discovered that groups want more specialized training and credentialing and graduate students in various programs want certificates showing expertise. They noted that Special Education has an online MA in Autism degree forthcoming. The certificate will be a 12 hour program with courses coming from two areas and will include treatment and assessment and a practicum. A practicum is not necessary to complete the certificate. They indicated that other programs in the state were at Missouri State, which is only about Autism and uses MU online courses for the program and Southeast Missouri State University. Dr. Marsh stated that they were planning for the certificate to be an online certificate since it would be easy for anyone to assess it. After they left the meeting discussion followed. Questions included whether the certificate could continue with the federal funding associated with the Special Education program ended, should there be a broad focus on ideas and skill set or a narrow one, are different certificates necessary or should they be more specific or by departments, and would like to see a list of approved courses for the certificate. A motion and second were made to send the certificate proposal to the Graduate School for further review and development. The motion was approved.

Possibility of a separate category for “Associate Graduate Faculty Status”

Due to the lateness of the hour, the item was tabled.

Pros and Cons of instituting +/- grading for Graduate Courses

A subcommittee was set up to research the issue. Dr. Segert volunteered for the subcommittee. Dr. Strathman was also appointed to the subcommittee to collect information on the +/- grading.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Submitted by,

Ruth Erwin
Graduate School