

**Graduate Council Meeting
February 11, 2015**

Present: J. Alm, M. Cunningham, E. Floyd, M. Macpherson, G. Morris, A. Robison, S. Overstreet, M. Vail

Absent: A. Childress, S. Grayson, M. Herman, F. Rabito, E. Svendsen

M. Cunningham called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Agenda:

1. Vote on Meeting Minutes

M. Vail move to approve; all approved.

2. Architecture SRED Certificate Program proposal

Casius Peeler – Director of the Master of Sustainable Real Estate Development program. Master of Preservation Studies – certificate program so that Arch students can get certified while studying for their Master's. There have been many MArch students who are requesting a SRED certificate program.

Three semester summer intensive curriculum; they are hoping to start the certificate program for the summer 2015 term. They would have to take 1 additional class in the Fall/Spring to augment their summer studies. There is one course in the Business School that is taught in both Fall and Spring, and is currently being taken by MArch students.

The professional programs use many adjuncts contributing to a regular curriculum. There will not be any need for additional resources in the School of Architecture for the SRED Certificate.

M. Vail motion to approve; J. Alm seconds. All vote in favor. No abstentions.

3. External PhD Review & Schedule

The departments are requested to reserve the rooms for the department meetings.

There is one external reviewer per program; this reviewer will meet individually with the department that they are reviewing.

The Graduate Council will not have a March meeting; instead they will meet on March 12 from 9-10:00 am with the external PhD Reviewers.

4. Graduate Concerns

GAPSA used funding to put additional lighting on Tulane owned buildings to increase sense of safety in the city. The downtown students have mentioned that it has been difficult to get an escort to their car/public transportation.

Downtown students have difficult using the downtown rec center; students in PHTM are having difficulties using the services. If they are paying the fees, they should be able to use them. This will be a conversation to have with Dusty Porter, as the graduate presence downtown is increasingly growing.

5. Graduate Recruitment

GSSA reached out to us about a growing concern within the departments, which is the departments forcing graduate students to host prospective students. This brings up issues of safety (a student disappeared), sexual harassment, many graduates don't have proper accommodations to host a student, etc.

The appropriateness of this is debated among the student representatives; some believe it reflects poorly on the institution and its inability to bring in prospective graduate students.

One graduate student had their RA stipend threatened (it would be taken away if they didn't host).

M. Cunningham proposed that the Graduate Council works with OGPS about create a training/Best Practices of Recruitment for departments. M. Vail suggests that this guide talks specifically about student confidentiality and that sets the Graduate Council as a body to oversee these complaints and respond to these issues.

6. Graduate Career and Academic Advisor

On Friday we will be interviewing for the Senior Career and Academic Advisor for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Fellows. We are hoping to have an offer to the finalist by the end of February. The new Career and Academic Advisor will be a full-time position working out of the Career Services Center in the Diboll Complex.

M. Cunningham adjourned the meeting at 9:15 a.m.