

## **Graduate Council Agenda**

### **May 13, 2015**

**Present:** R. Adderley, J. Alm, M. Cunningham, E. Floyd, M. MacPherson, B. Mohan, G. Morris, S. Overstreet, A. Robison

**Absent:** M. Foa, M. Herman, L. Pratt, E. Svendsen

Michael Cunningham, Associate Provost for Graduate Studies and Research and Acting Chair of the Graduate Council, called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM.

#### **1. Approval of Minutes**

J. Alm motioned to approve the minutes; S. Overstreet seconded. All voted in favor of approval.

#### **2. External PhD Reviews**

S. Overstreet reviews the previous two years Graduate Council recommendations from the external PhD Reviews. Many of the concerns from the AY13-14 review also came up during this year's reviews; this has to do with the lack of centralized Graduate School. Both the AY13-14 and this year's report recommended the need for more graduate only courses, as well as oversight of degrees.

Since our first review, graduate education has improved in its career services and planning; while it has been mentioned each year, the prominence has decreased, suggesting an improvement.

Two departments responded to their reviews; these will be included in the finalized report.

External PhD Review Action Items:

- Collect short CVs instead of dissertation abstracts.
- Meet with more students by having a graduate student forum; also have elected students at lunch collect cohort needs.
- Make the reviews less top heavy; have a shorter meeting with President, and meet with administration after meeting with students and faculty.
- Self-studies: enhance the "perception" sections by requesting departments identify your peer and aspirant programs. This will also help in recruiting external reviewers.
- Oversight, procedures, and consistent standards will be addressed by the Grad Council by outlining major procedures and policies at a university wide level: expectations on mentoring, recruitment; and doing more centralized recruitment. What's the purpose of the comprehensive review process? How does it fit your program & mission?
- OGPS will work with Office of Multicultural Affairs, OISS and GAPSA/GSSA to offer infrastructure and support to coordinate events for minority students.
- OGPS will work with OAIR on the Graduating Student Survey; the goal will be to coalesce graduate student portion to share with departments. OAIR is tracking graduate students: are departments doing it as well?

- Invite Jim Stofan from Alumni Relations to meet with the Graduate Council.
- Operations + support for graduate tracking post-graduation: who can collect that data and how do we make it easy to collect and report?
- Grad Council will create suggestions regarding graduate level only courses and how many have to be offered at that level each year. How is graduate education distinct from undergraduate education?
- Can the Graduate Council ask for graduate support from the Development Office? Can graduate education fundraising become a part of someone's time? How is a school's development officer helping find/raise graduate funding?
- All departments need a Graduate Handbook and the Graduate Council needs to establish a timeline for completion. Duties should be clearly defined.

J. Alm recommends that the Graduate Council focus the report on actionable items that the programs can implement. Please do not focus only on increasing university resources.

M. Cunningham thanks the following graduate council members for their time on the council: J. Alm and S. Overstreet.

Please email A. Robison all revisions and comments for the Graduate Council Report on the External PhD Reviews.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:49 a.m.