Graduate Council Meeting
MINUTES

Meeting began at 1:03pm

I. Approval of Minutes from October 09, 2014

Minutes were discussed and amended to correctly reflect participation of council members and clarify the discussion of international student support. Dr. Layman moved to approve the minutes as amended; Dr. Garret seconded; minutes were approved as amended.

II. CGS Updates – Dr. Thomas Naehr

A. Graduate Catalog Status

Review of catalog changes is challenging this year, because Colleges did not receive clear instructions how to edit catalog copy. CSE and COE have numerous course changes/additions. Graduate catalog has to go to Faculty Senate for review on November 26.

Proposed changes of 5000-level courses to 6000-level courses were discussed. The question came up why programs that do not offer a doctoral degree would have the need for 6000-level courses. CSE argued that any course that could be taken by a doctoral student should be at the 6000 level. The same college is also concerned that 5000-level courses taken by doctoral students are not counted towards their degree by CGS. Naehr stated that he was not aware that this was an issue with CGS.

Graduate Student Advisory Committee

CGS received nominations from three of the five colleges; CLA and CNHS were asked to provide nominations soon; Dr. Canales will schedule first meeting of the committee for Friday, October 31st.
B. Nominations for student and faculty graduate awards

Nominations have been sent to all associate deans to pass on to the college award committees; at least 3 nominations for each category were received, except for outstanding RA, because students did not meet the hours completed criterion, which is 50%; all nominations should be emailed back to Adriana Quinones by November 14th.

III. Committee Reports

A. Curriculum - Dr. Sherrye Garrett

The subcommittee will meet on November 4th; catalog files received so far were placed in Dropbox folder; COE has numerous changes, especially course additions; other colleges have fewer changes.

COE certificate in Bilingual Counseling has not gone to coordinating board yet; Dr. Griffith mentioned that it is currently at Faculty Senate.

Dr. Layman mentioned that a decision on the DNP program is still pending; if program is not reviewed by CB by January it will automatically be approved; DNP courses have not gone through Graduate Council review - only course descriptions were submitted with the proposal.

Dr. Naehr mentioned that programs can be added to the catalog prior to final approval if it is likely that a program will be approved before the catalog is published.

B. Rules and Procedures – Dr. Melissa Jarrell

Next meeting for the subcommittee is November 6th; currently reviewing CGS catalog section; there are fewer changes than last year because a number of changes were approved then.

Recommended five-year reappointment for CSE graduate faculty application; Graduate Council followed recommendation and voted for reappointment.

IV. Liaison Reports

A. ITDEC – Dr. Richard Smith

Membership terms for ITDEC are still being discussed; there are several vacant spots on the committee; possible reduction of fees for online students who are not on campus is being discussed.

Additional explanation of the Examity test-proctoring software was given; there are four different service levels offered and each will have a different cost; use of the software will be optional and will be available for Spring 2015. It is recommended that students are made aware of the fee in the course syllabus.

B. International – Dr. Scott King

Updates on international travel for faculty and the University's stance on Ebola and accepting students from Africa.

C. Retention – Dr. Monica Hernandez

Committee is being restructured; current members are mainly from CASA and student engagement and one faculty representative from each College. A report is being developed to show retention for undergraduate students; Dr. Garrett asked if
there would be a report for graduate students as well. Currently, there are no plans for such a report.

D. Faculty Senate – Dr. Bryant Griffith

New procedure for faculty evaluation of Deans and Department Chairs is being discussed; summer pay is being revisited as well.

E. Library – Dr. Catherine Rudowsky

Library is testing new programs/tools; first tool is for tracking research to help with analyses. Another program is lynda.com, which is an online learning repository; has received positive reviews from faculty, but is expensive; access is also being discussed for an online newspaper repository.

V. Matters Arising

The additional financial aid available to graduate students that was discussed on October 9 is for in-state students only; students need to submit a FAFSA; availability of funds will be advertised through the CGS website and email announcements; some council members mentioned that they already sent out emails to students; if not all funds are spent they can roll over to summer but not to fall. Each college was asked needs to let Dr. Naehr know if certain student populations should be targeted. Application deadline will be November 30.

Dr. King moved to adjourn, Dr. Jarrell seconded; Meeting adjourned at 2:39pm