

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE
Graduate Faculty Committee

Minutes

November 21, 2011, 3:00 p.m.
Union 280

I. Call to Order

GFC Chair Anne Wysocki called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Members Present:

Michael Brondino
Benjamin Campbell
Maria Gajdardziska-Josifovska
(*ex officio*)
Jerry Kaster
Kathleen Koch (*ex officio*)
Christine Larson
Hur-Li Lee
Michael Liston (*ex officio*)
Edward Mabry
Devendra Misra
Stuart Moulthrop

Anthony Ross
Amanda Seligman
Regina Smith
Kristene Surerus
Kurt Svoboda
Luc Vanier
Laura Voith
Jon Welstead
Carla Wiggins
Doug Woods (*ex officio*)
Anne Wysocki
David Yu (*ex officio*)

Members Absent:

Anoop Dhingra
Jennifer Gruenewald
Donald Hanlon
Steve Hardcastle
Yong-Cheol Kim
Lawrence Kuiper
Festus Obiakor
Beth Rodgers
Bruce Wade
Shangping Xu

Guests:

Michelle Boettcher, Graduate School; Mark Harris, Interim Senior Special Assistant to the Chancellor; Paul Sickel, MGAA

AUTOMATIC CONSENT

- III. Minutes of the Regular Graduate Faculty Committee Meeting of October 17, 2011
The minutes were approved as distributed.

GFC Doc. No.

- IV. Recommendation of the Subcommittee on Graduate Course and Curriculum, College of Letters and Science Academic Policies and Curriculum Committee, and the Faculty of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature for Changes to the Master of Arts in Language, Literature and Translation 1206

The above document was approved as distributed.

INFORMATION ONLY

- V. Recommendation to Establish the Translation and Interpreting Department-Like Body

Anne Wysocki informed members that department-like bodies are not on the approval matrix because the approval matrix pre-dates the university's recognition of department-like bodies. The Secretary of the University advised us to treat the proposal for the Translation and Interpreting Department-Like Body as though it were for a department -- and so it comes before the GFC for information only.

Ed Mabry suggested that the GFC look closer at the approval matrix for departments and department-like bodies. Anne Wysocki responded that a discussion has been started with the Secretary of the University regarding this issue.

REPORTS

- VI. Report from David Yu, Interim Dean of the Graduate School

The Graduate Assistants' Employment Grievance Procedure is close to being completed. There will be a meeting tomorrow with students to discuss any overlooked concerns. If there are no concerns, the final document will be presented at the next GFC meeting for approval and then be presented to the campus.

The formation of the Graduate Student Advisory Council is starting to be discussed. There may be a need for a GFC member to facilitate this group in its beginning stages; eventually the students would guide their own process.

The Graduate School will be undertaking the trial use of electronic submission for theses and dissertations this summer. Training sessions for students and faculty will be offered in spring.

David Yu also reported that he and Mark Harris are working with the Chancellor in exploring various funding models for the Graduate School. The discussions with the Chancellor are in the early stages and no actions have been established.

Ed Mabry expressed concern about the potential hesitancy of students in using the electronic submissions process for the first time. Using both hard copy and electronic submission during the trial period was suggested.

Doug Woods spoke to the ease of using this new process. The main difference with electronic and hard copy submission is the cost. There will be no fee for this process; in the past submitting hard copies had a fee of sixty-five dollars. Most students are technologically proficient and will not have difficulty with the process.

Amanda Seligman inquired about the continued use of hard copy submissions and archiving them in the library.

Michael Liston replied that the library would make digital copies available.

Students and departments may utilize the services of ProQuest to produce hard copies for themselves. ProQuest also provides other services that will allow student to attach other media such as art, music and movies to their thesis or dissertation.

VII. Report from Mark Harris, Interim Senior Special Assistant to the Chancellor

Anne Wysocki introduced Mark Harris and the topic he would be discussing. She indicated in the past the MGAA negotiated the same stipends across all departments for each type of assistantship as an issue of equity. With the dissolution of the MGAA, UWM has the opportunity to redesign the system. Mark Harris recommended many different ways of looking at this new opportunity. Some of the items he encouraged members to consider:

- The usefulness of the PA category.
- The current rate structure.
- Appointment options for Graduate students that are established by the different fields and the relevant competition in that field.
- Campus support for the new system.
- The action plan for the restructuring of this system
 - a) Assemble a task force
 - b) Develop a new model

- c) Analyze cost
- d) Produce a transition plan for the new model

Discussion emerged about the deficiencies of the current system. One challenge is the nine month, academic year stipend. Kurt Svoboda suggested a model that fits a 12 month structure. Budget concerns have limited this type of model.

Another concern was brought to the attention of the members regarding the MGAA. The MGAA is continuing and will maintain its role in ensuring graduate assistants receive appropriate assistance. The proposed Graduate Student Advisory Council will have at least two graduate students with TA/PA experience.

Anne Wysocki suggested that the following groups be involved with the Graduate Assistants stipend task force: GFC, RPC, Graduate students, Associate Deans, representatives from each school and college that have graduate programs, and a representative from the Provost's office. This group would try to implement the new TA/PA stipend system by Fall 2013.

VIII. Chair's Report

The APBC is trying to obtain as much information on the possible budget models. They are evaluating those budget models with criteria such as student retention and equity issues. GFC members are welcome to contribute possible criteria for the budget models.

Chancellor Lovell went to Madison to argue against the budget cuts. Information on those cuts will be known by January 2012. The APBC has also been charged to come up with "creative strategies" for the budget. Outside consultants have been hired to help gather information on different budget models. The final recommendation on the budget is due May 2012 from APBC.

Graduate School Research Award applications were received November 5, with 63 applicants. The committee will be meeting to go over proposals and awards will be announced after the RGI.

The revised Graduate School bulletin document with the new credit requirements for master's programs will be presented to the GFC at the next meeting.

Anne Wysocki, along with Vice Chair and Subcommittee chairs of the GFC organized the priority list. Moving forward there will be a representative from the library invited to the January GFC meeting discussing submission of theses, intellectual property issues and electronic journals.

Other topics that will be brought before the GFC are graduate student funding and discussions concerning support of the new schools on campus.

Michael Liston wanted to bring to the attention of the committee the issue of Fellowship nominations. Currently any graduate program can nominate two graduate students for each of the two fellowships offered (distinguished graduate student and dissertation fellowships). Future discussions about the number of graduate students allowed in the nomination process will be looked at carefully. A task force will be assembled to discuss the most equitable options for nominations.

Anne Wysocki asked Kristene Surerus, the PEC (Physical Environment Committee) representative to inform the GFC about items discussed at that meeting. The items of interest to the GFC were:

- The transportation subcommittee is discussing raising rates.
- Students are promoting free parking at the Northwest Quadrant Lot. They are also trying to receive free parking at the Pavilion.
- In early spring semester certain occupants of Bolton Hall will be moving to the Northwest Quadrant due to HVAC work in Bolton.

IX. Subcommittee Reports

A. Fellowships

Applications are now available and deadlines have been announced.

B. Graduate Program Review

At the next GPR meeting the members will finish reviews from last year.

C. Graduate Course and Curriculum

No report.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Boettcher, Graduate School
For Stuart Moulthrop