

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE
Graduate Faculty Committee

Minutes
December 17, 2012, 3:00 p.m.
Union 340

I. CALL TO ORDER

GFC Chair Michael Brondino called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sukanya Banerjee, Michael Brondino, Maria Gajdardziska-Josifovska, Jerry Kaster, Kathleen Koch, Christine Larson, Michael Liston, Edward Mabry, Maria del Pilar Melgarejo-Acosta, Devendra Misra, Karen Morin, Jeff Neuhauser, Aaron Schutz, Mark Schwartz, Amanda Seligman, Regina Smith, Virginia Stoffel, Kristene Surerus, Peter Tonellato, Luc Vanier, Jon Welstead, Doug Woods, Shangping Xu, David Yu

Members Absent:

Anoop Dhingra, Donald Hanlon, Laretta Henderson, Anthony Ross, Valeriy Sibilkov, Carrie Truebenbach

Guests:

Prasenjit Guptasarma, Department of Physics; Carol Haertlein Sells, Department of Occupational Science and Technology; Ann Swartz, Department of Kinesiology; Mark Harris, Interim Senior Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Research; Patricia Hayes, Rebecca Murray, Sue Krueger, Graduate School

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prasenjit Guptasarma, Chair of the Research Policy Committee (RPC), gave an update on the actions of their 12/14/2012 meeting. He asked for the GFC to support the RPC's motion regarding the recommendations from the Preliminary Report of the Graduate Assistantship Working Group- September 2012. The report examined the structure and compensation model for graduate student assistantships (RA/TA/PA). The report concluded that the stipends for graduate student assistantships at UW-Milwaukee were considerably lower than stipends paid at similar universities. Changes to the compensation structure would have a positive impact upon many areas of UW-Milwaukee in addition to strengthening research. The earliest that the changes would be implemented would be Fall 2013.

Prasenjit Guptasarma read the GRC motion in support of the report's recommendations:

”The Research Policy Committee strongly urges the Provost and the Chancellor to work with the Graduate School to implement the recommendations of the TA/RA/PA report by the Committee on Graduate Assistantship by January 2013.

Since UWM is now responsible for setting TA/RA/PA stipend rates, any delay in implementing the recommendations for increases to these rates will have the effect of sending the message that Graduate and Undergraduate education and research are not valued at UWM. If the plan is not implemented by January 2013, the new rates cannot be included in offer letters that go out to students who will start in August 2013. Implementation of the plan after this date will mean that new rates cannot be included in offer letters until December 2013 and it would then go into effect for students starting in August 2014. This is the highest return of investment that the campus can make as far as graduate and undergraduate education and research are concerned.”

Ginny Stoffel made a motion to support the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Karen Morin, and approved.

The RPC also discussed the various models for the reorganization of the Graduate School at their 12/14/12 meeting. The group favored Model 3 because it solves the previous conflicts in the reporting structure and retains a higher-level position for research.

IV. AUTOMATIC CONSENT

1. The minutes of the Graduate Faculty C Committee meeting of November 19, 2012 were approved as distributed.
2. (GFC Doc 1249) Recommendation of the Subcommittee on Graduate Course and Curriculum, and Program Faculty within the College of Health Sciences Research and Graduate Programs Committee, and the Faculty of the Department of Kinesiology for Changes to the Master of Science in Kinesiology Degree Program
3. (GFC Doc 1250) Recommendation of the Subcommittee On Graduate Course and Curriculum, the College of Health Sciences Research and Graduate Programs Committee, and the Faculty of the Department of Occupational Science and Technology for Changes to the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy
4. (GFC DOC 1251) Recommendation of the Subcommittee on Graduate Course and Curriculum, the College of Letters and Science Graduate Program Committee and the Faculty of the Department of English for Changes to the Master Of Arts in History
5. (GFC Doc 1252) Recommendation of the Subcommittee on Graduate Course and Curriculum, the College of Letters and Science Graduate Program Committee and the Faculty of the Department of Psychology for Changes to the Master of Science in Psychology
6. (GFC Doc 1253) Recommendation of the Subcommittee on Graduate Course and Curriculum, and the Steering Committee of the Medical Informatics Phd Program to Add a Track in Public Health Informatics

GFC documents 1249 through 1253 were approved as distributed.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Graduate School Task Force [Final Report](#):

The GFC was asked to review the proposed models for the Graduate School and Research, and to provide the Provost with a report on the strengths and weaknesses of each model. The main features of the models are:

Model 1) There would be one person with the title of Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School who reports to the Provost.

Model 2) There would be two separate positions – one for a Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School, and one for a Vice Provost of Research. Each would report to the Provost.

Several members shared their School's thoughts on the models. The School of Education and the College of Nursing had voted for Model 2, and the Lubar School of Business in favor of Model 1. There was not a clear consensus among the GFC members favoring any of the models, as demonstrated by a show of hands. The ensuing discussion included some of these salient points:

- There will be fewer checks and balances of all the functions if both positions report only to the Provost.
- A Vice Provost position is too far down the organizational chart to attract good external candidates. The positions for head of Graduate Research and/or Graduate Education should be at the Vice Chancellor or Dean level.
- The problems with research extend to individual schools and colleges, where deans do not have incentives to promote research, and involve campus-wide processes. These issues will not necessarily be resolved by changing the organizational structure of the Graduate School.
- The Graduate School reorganization should focus on the future. We need a structure that keeps both the Graduate Education and Research functions strong and protected from external forces.
- The current Chancellor and Provost are advocates of a strong Research function. However, the new structure must recognize that future Chancellors and Provosts might not share the same commitment to research.
- Any of these models would work if the right people were chosen for the positions. The GFC should advocate getting the right people in these positions.

Michael Brondino will summarize the GFC's discussion as well as conduct a survey of member's preferences, and forward the results to the Provost.

Review of the Embargo Policy for Dissertations and Theses (GFC Document 1080)

Pat Hayes, Doctoral Graduation Specialist in the Graduate School, gave a brief overview of the current policy. The electronic submission system for submission of dissertations and theses allows students to select an embargo period during which the thesis will not be publicly available. This is usually done due to pending intellectual property issues. The system has three options: a six-month, one-year or two-year embargo period, but we have elected to only

display the six-month option for now since it is the most similar to current policy. Currently, only the six-month choice is being displayed. Typically, the longer time periods for embargos are for patent pending issues. Any deviation from 6 month, one-year or two-year embargo periods options would incur programing charges from ProQuest software company. Discussion on the policy included:

- When are students informed of the embargo policy and how early can a request be made for an embargo? The policy should be included in future revisions to the Graduate School handbook. At the time we send out the confirmation of dissertator status, we will also include a link to the embargo policy to the student and encourage the student to have a discussion with their Major Professor about this policy.
- What is the appeals process when there is a disagreement between the student and Major Professor regarding placing an embargo, or the embargo period?
- Is it preferred to have a Central system through the Graduate School to process embargo requests or decentralize it through the respective Schools?
- Can an embargo be lifted before the requested embargo period? (Graduate School will check with ProQuest.)
- Schools handle embargos differently. Some redact proprietary information from the published dissertations or theses and release sooner, others use the embargo system and release full documents without redactions at the end of the embargo period.

There was consensus to form a working group to revise the policy and bring it back for discussion.. The three members of the working group are Michael Brondino, Maria Gajdardziska-Josifovska and Kristene Surerus. Ed Mabry suggested gathering information on practices at other research universities, especially those where patent applications are more frequent (e.g. Stanford).

Review of Graduate School Policy on the Awarding of Posthumous Degrees. (Graduate School Policy GFC Document 602, Undergraduate Policy FD2278)

Several examples of how the policy was recently used were given. The ability to award degrees posthumously was considered worthwhile and a working group was formed to review the current policy and make suggestions for future revisions. Members of the working group are Karen Morin, Ginny Stoffel and Amanda Seligman.

VI. REPORTS

1. Report from the Interim Dean of the Graduate School

David Yu thanked the Committee for the support and guidance they have provided over the past year.

He reported that he will be travelling with the Provost to China (Ningbo University) They will sign a memorandum of intent to establish a Graduate School there. If there is interest in implementing this initiative, legal, financial, and logistical details will have to be worked out. Four schools and colleges have expressed an interest in participating.

2. Research Policy Committee

One of the recommendations that the Graduate School Task Force was to rename the Research Policy Committee to Research Committee Plus. If you have any recommendations on a new name for this committee, since it more work on advisory rather than policy for research matters, please send your comments on suggested names for this committee to pg@uwm.edu or send comments to Graduate School Deans.

3. Subcommittee Reports

Subcommittee on Graduate Fellowships

Ginny Stoffel thanked committee members for collecting information on programs that have separate admission processes/reviews for concentrations within their degrees.. She also reminded the group that nominations are due February 8th for the Distinguished Graduate Student Fellowships.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Krueger, Graduate School
For Maria del Pilar Melgarejo-Acosta