

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE

GRADUATE FACULTY COMMITTEE

Minutes

Monday, March 25, 2013, 3:00 p.m.

Union E 280

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Michael Brondino, Chair, Sukanya Banerjee, Anoop Dhingra, Donald Hanlon, Kathleen Koch (*ex officio*), Christine Larson, Michael Liston (*ex officio*), Edward Mabry, Maria del Pilar Melgarejo-Acosta, Devendra Misra, Karen Morin, Jeff Neuhauser, Aaron Schutz, Mark Schwartz, Regina Smith, Virginia Stoffel, Kristene Surerus, Carrie Truebenbach, Luc Vanier, Jon Welstead, David Yu (*ex officio*)

Members Absent:

Chase Erwin, Maria Gajdardziska-Josifovska (*ex officio*), Jacob Glicklich, Laretta Henderson, Jerry Kaster, Anthony Ross, Valeriy Sibilkov, Peter Tonellato, Doug Woods (*ex officio*), Shangping Xu,

Guests:

Donte McFadden, Assistant Director, Diversity Programs

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donte McFadden announced that the Graduate School will hold a memorial event to honor Dr. Tomas Garrett-Rosas at 4:30 p.m. in the Golda Meir Library Conference Center (4th floor). Additionally, the Graduate School is pleased to announce the new annual "Dr. Tomas Garrett-Rosas AOP Fellowship" award to recognize a student whose research interests demonstrate a focus on social justice and potential for community outreach, objectives that were important to Dr. Garrett-Rosas. The student will be selected to receive an AOP fellowship with an additional stipend of \$1,500 per academic year. As a McNair scholar and alumnus, Tomas was always known for his sharp initiative, his strong work ethic, and his lively personality within and outside an academic context. The winner of the Dr. Garrett-Rosas AOP Fellowship award will be announced at the memorial event.

IV. AUTOMATIC CONSENT

1. Minutes of the Regular Graduate Faculty Council Meeting of February 25, 2013 were approved as distributed

2. (GFC 1259) Recommendation of the Subcommittee on Graduate Course and Curriculum, College of Letters and Science Graduate Program Committee, and the Faculty of the Department of Mathematical Sciences for Changes to the Master of Science in Mathematics

3. (GFC 1260) 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 Biological Sciences for Changes to the Requirements for the Master of Science in Biological Sciences

4. (GFC 1261) Recommendation of the Subcommittee on Graduate Course and Curriculum, School of Education Faculty Assembly, the School of Education Curriculum Committee, and the Faculty of the Department of Exceptional Education for Establishment of the Transition For Students With Disabilities Online Graduate Certificate Program

5. (GFC 1262) Recommendation of the Graduate Curriculum Committee to Establish a Policy and Time Limit for Temporary Withholding of Theses and Dissertations from Public Disclosure

6. (GFC 602) Recommendation of the Subcommittee on Graduate Course and Curriculum for Changes to the Policy on Awarding Posthumous Graduate Degrees

GFC Documents 602 (Rev. February 25, 2013), 1259, 1260, 1261 and 1262 were approved as distributed.

V. REPORTS

1. Report from the Interim Dean of the Graduate School
Interim Dean David Yu reported the following:
The Search and Screen Committee for Dean of the Graduate School will have its first meeting on Friday, March 29, 2013. Tracey Heatherington is the committee chair. The search for the Vice-Provost of Research will begin in Fall 2013. In the interim period, Mark Harris will be appointed Interim Vice Provost of Research.

In preparation for the Graduate School reorganization, the Graduate School staff has begun discussions on how to proceed. Currently, there are a number of overlapping units that serve both Graduate Education and Research such as Administrative and Financial Services, Information Technology and Analysis, and Strategic Initiatives in Research, Education, and Scholarship (SIREs). The Provost has asked the Graduate School to provide input for the new structure. For the interim period, the Graduate School has recommended two Graduate School Associate Deans, which will serve both the Research and Graduate Education sides. The Associate Deans will provide the “glue” for the new structure. The Graduate School anticipates that the split will begin in Fall 2013.

2. Updates from GFC Subcommittee Chairs
Subcommittee on Graduate Program Reviews (GRC) Report
Kristene Surerus indicated there was no report this month.

Subcommittee on Graduate Course and Curriculum (GCC) Report

Luc Vanier reported the following:

Improvements continue to be made for the course and curriculum review process. For example, this month the committee began using a web-based survey tool, designed in Qualtrics. It will expedite the review process for the committee members. Other changes include: earlier deadlines for submitting course proposals and pre-assessment of the syllabi by Graduate School staff to ensure that the required items are present prior to full committee review. The new process and criteria used for reviews will be discussed at this week’s Graduate Representative meeting.

Subcommittee on Graduate Fellowships Report

Ginny Stoffel reported the following:

Awards have been determined for next year’s Distinguished Graduate Student, and Distinguished Dissertation fellowships. For the Distinguished Graduate Student Fellowship, more PhD than M.S. candidates are represented. While the award program accepts nominations for both categories, the committee may wish to consider whether a certain number of awards should be reserved for master’s candidates in the future.

Chair’s Report

Remote Access to GFC Meetings: Trudy Turner has been contacted to discuss whether GFC members could be provided with the option of joining the monthly GFC meeting remotely via SKYPE or another method if they cannot attend in person.

Multiple Degree Issues: A working group will be convened to discuss certificate policy. This group could also discuss policies for pursuing multiple degrees simultaneously. One of the obstacles to allowing enrollment in multiple degrees (or a degree and a certificate) is related to limitations of PeopleSoft, where a student can only be identified with a single program at a time.

Graduate Student Surveys: There would be value in surveying incoming graduate students at the time of orientation to gather data on why they chose UWM. This information could be used in future recruitment efforts. Several programs currently survey incoming students during their program orientations. This matter will be discussed further with Erin Fox and representatives from the GFC.

Graduate School Recruitment Efforts: Graduate School Interim Dean Yu indicated that the Graduate School has hired a marketing person, and a full-time recruiter will be hired soon. There is also a pilot program for increasing enrollment of International students being conducted through the Lubar School of Business and the School of Architecture and Urban Planning. Admitted students are participating in Live Chat sessions to answer questions they might have, and to hear from current students why they would recommend UWM. If it works well, it will be rolled out to other schools.

Talisma: The group discussed how the Graduate School could utilize Talisma, which is a campus-wide prospective student contact management system. It currently is being used by undergraduate programs and it could enhance the recruitment efforts of the Graduate School. Michael Brondino will request that a representative to come and speak to the GFC about Talisma.

VII. GENERAL DISCUSSION

1. Dissertation Committee Membership Structure
2. Policy Regarding Returning Graduate Students Enrolling in Multiple Concentrations

Working groups were formed to discuss and draft policy related to these issues.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.