

# University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

## Graduate Faculty Committee

Monday, November 18, 2013

3:00 p.m.

Union E280

### *Minutes*

I. Call to Order

Kristene Surerus, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Barbara Bales, Sukanya Banerjee, Nair Campbell-Kyureghyan, Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska (*ex officio*), Eric Herhuth, Jerry Kaster, Rina Kundu, Michael Liston (*ex officio*), Michael Schadewald, Brian Schermer, Amanda Seligman, Kristene Surerus, Jon Welstead, David Yu (*ex officio*), Vyara Zlatkova Matson

Members Absent: Anthony Azenabor, Michael Brondino, Joel DesArmo, Anoop Dhingra, Craig Guilbault, Laretta Henderson, Kathleen Koch (*ex officio*), Christine Larson, Sarah Morgan, Karen Morin, Patricia Richards, Gabriel Rei-Doval, Mark Schwartz, Caroline Seymour-Jorn, Jeffrey Sommers, Mark Srite, Peter Tonellato

Guests: Vicky Everson, Erin Fox

III. Announcements

There were no announcements.

IV. Automatic Consent

All of the items under Automatic Consent were approved.

V. New Business

There was no new business.

VI. Reports

1. Report from the Interim Dean of the Graduate School

David Yu reported that Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska's appointment as the Dean of the Graduate School will be effective January 1, 2014. She knows the functions of graduate education well and we are in the transitioning process.

2. GFC Chair's Report

Kristene Surerus thanked David Yu for his work during the past two years. He took the interim Dean position at a difficult time and the GFC appreciated David's leadership.

Kristene congratulated Marija on her appointment to the Graduate School Dean position. Marija thanked Kristene and stated that she is honored and humbled. Marija thanked David Yu and Michael Liston for their leadership and for working with her during the transition period.

Marija provided a summary of the following items:

- Determine strategy for transition of an associate dean for Office of Research and Graduate Education
- Timeline/search for Vice Provost for Research
- Strategic Plan to Provost (focus: graduate fellowships)
- Budget cuts for Graduate School (approx. \$66K)
- Carry-forward funds given to graduate programs in block grants
- Determine how Graduate School can participate in development/fund raising
- Annual Council of Graduate Schools meeting

Discussion followed regarding summer support for students, specifically how to fund more AOP students and what flexibilities exist with those state funds.

Kristene stated that the Certificate Program Working Group is meeting on Nov. 19. She also indicated that the Research Policy Committee (RPC) has met and continues to discuss RA/PA/TA rates.

3. Report from the Interim Vice Provost for Research  
Mark Harris did not attend the meeting and no report was provided.

## VII. General Discussion

Kristene Surerus asked the members to think about an accelerated or combined bachelor's/master's degree for which a specific number of credits would be double counted. A proposal will be presented at the December GFC meeting. Such a degree may work for some programs and may not work for other programs. This degree program is in place at other institutions. This accelerated degree program may provide cost savings and time to eligible students, and may also be used as a recruitment tool. There are various concerns that need to be considered which include tuition charges, effect on financial aid and/or graduate assistantship positions, teaching assistants potentially teaching peers, potential qualifying exam, potential negative economic impact on institution, fairness to graduate students in graduate programs, process for transfer students, how are high standards/expectations determined, and effect on UWM accreditation. Marija indicated that many more high schools are offering AP courses, that the Commission on Higher Learning provided a basis for accelerated or

combined degree, and that UWM's McNair scholars are great examples of exceptional students who could benefit from such an accelerated/combined degree.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.