

UNIVERSITY GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, March 30, 2016

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Linfield 214

Council in Attendance:

Ahmed Al-Kaisy (Engineering)

Ann Ewbank (Education)

John Borkowski (Sciences)

Jean Shreffler-Grant (Nursing)

Christopher Livingston (Architecture)

Fabian Menalled (Agriculture)

Mary Miles (Health & Human Development)

Michael Babcock (Faculty Senate)

Tim LeCain (Letters)

Karlene Hoo (The Graduate School)

Marc Giullian (Business)

Also in Attendance:

Amanda Brown (The Graduate School)

Kelly Beiswanger (Office of Research Compliance)

Lauren Cerretti (The Graduate School)

Megan Prettyman (Office of International Programs)

Absent:

Meeting started at 2:02 pm

March 2, 2016 minutes

- Livingston moves, Guillian second, unanimous pass.

Announcements

- **Update from Faculty Senate (Babcock)**
 - Optional Graduate Representative policy passed by Faculty Senate on 3/9
 - IIP (Individual Interdisciplinary PhD) passed by Faculty Senate on 3/23
 - Withdrawing Graduation Application—not yet taken to Faculty Senate. Dr. Babcock will discuss with Dean Hoo.
- Welcome to Megan Prettyman from Office International Programs and Kelly Beiswanger from the Office of Research Compliance
- **Update on Coffee Talk held by GS 3/3/16**
 - Shared new policies approved by UGC
 - Dates/deadlines reminders
 - Admissions discussed upcoming CollegeNET seminar
- **PhD Enhancement Funds**
 - Submission closed on 3/2/16
 - Five proposals were submitted
 - UGC will review proposals except for UGC members whose departments or related departments have applied; committee will give funding recommendations to the Dean of The Graduate School at the next UGC meeting on 4/13/16.
 - PhD GRA Enhancement Fund and Dissertation Year Award will open in fall 2016

Old Business

- IIP proposal will be presented to Deans Council 4/12
- Optional graduate representative policy will be presented to Deans Council 4/12

New Business

- **Update on Task Force**
 - Dean Hoo gave an update on the Admissions/Retention/Recruitment task force
 - Survey for departments under construction with questions regarding:
 - Admissions
 - Recruitment
 - Progress toward degree
 - Departmental practices concerning their current graduate programs
 - Babcock, Workload task force update:
 - Increasing number of PhD students a factor in discussions
- **Conflict of Interest** (Kelly Beiswanger, compliance manager in Office of Research Compliance)
 - Use of graduate students and conflict of interest when employed by a company in which an MSU faculty has an interest
 - Handout of notes from meeting of Office of the Provost, The Graduate School, and the Office of Research Compliance
 - Defines “faculty interest”
 - Management plan when there is the appearance of a conflict of interest
 - The Provost and the Dean of Graduate School will review
 - Common practice at universities to set very clear separations between the university and companies
 - Q: Would UGC want to consider putting together a policy? Is it necessary?
 - Otherwise work through Office of Research Compliance
 - If the frequency of such conflicts is high, the creating a policy is reasonable (especially if the instances have similarities)
 - If each case is unique then creating a policy may be ineffectual
 - Data would be helpful
 - Office of Research Compliance can create a question on the annual conflict of interest report for September 2016 and could then share data with UGC
 - In interim, Provost and Dean of GS will continue to review each case
 - Communication and awareness are current goals
 - Intellectual Property (IP) concerns, ownership confusion could result

Committee Reports

- **Policy and Procedures Committee**
- **Curriculum Committee**
- **Governance Committee**

Chair LeCain adjourned at 2:57 pm

Next scheduled meeting – April 13, 2016