

## Graduate Faculty Council Minutes

Monday February 7, 2011

3:30-5:00pm

APPROVED

Video Bridge 22116

Bloomington, Franklin Hall 106  
Indianapolis, University Library 2115E  
East, Whitewater WZ 119  
Fort Wayne, Helmke B 37

Kokomo, Main Bldg KO 111  
Northwest, Hawthorne HH 338  
Southeast, Crestview Hall 028A  
South Bend, Northside Hall 075B

### 1. Attendance

Those present were George Bodmer, David Daleke, Deborah Finkel, Alyce Fly, John Hassel, Gail Hickey, Eric Isaacson, Kathy Johnson, Luise McCarty, Vicky Meretsky, Kate Myers, Martha Oakley, Tara Hobson-Prater, Sherry Queener, Sharon Sims, Maxine Watson, James C. Williams, James Wimbush.

Those absent were were Shirley Aamidor, Simon Atkinson, Jacqueline Blackwell, Maria Bucur-Deckard, Alisa Clapp-Itnyre, Nick D'Amico, Britney-Shea Herbert, Kevin Hunt, Jill Murrell, P.N. Saksena, Marty Siegel, Marianne Wokeck.

### 2. The Minutes from December 6, 2010 were approved (Hassel, Hickey) Approved minutes will be posted on the Oncourse site.

### 3. Dean's Report

Dean Wimbush reported that the budget for the University Graduate School is provided by the Bloomington campus. He is scheduled to have his budget conference with the Provost and will be making two requests for Provost funds. The first request is for funds to provide more professional development career opportunities for graduate students and postdocs. The UGS will submit a request in partnership with the College of Arts and Sciences (College) and the Dean of the Students Office at Bloomington for a Specialist in graduate and postdoctoral career services. The request is for one-half funding (base budget funds) for the position and includes a commitment by the College to provide the other half of the funding, The request will be made of the Provost and Budgetary Affairs Committee in a few weeks. Associate Dean Watson added that the person in the position will be provided with appropriate training for the task, and the program will be reviewed annually for effectiveness. Dean Wimbush reported that UGS viewed this as a starting point and envisions that UGS will begin to create professional development seminars, etc to assist the students. The second budgetary request is for funds to recruit students to STEM fills. The funds will be used to bring 25 recruits to campus and showcase the programs and provide personalized presentations to and interactions with the students. Funding was originally provided by 3 year NSF AGAP funding collaboration among Purdue, Northwestern and IU for 3 years, focused on STEM disciplines. When the funding was over, the Presidents Diversity Initiative funded the program for the Bloomington campus for two years and expanded the

program to cover humanities, arts and social sciences disciplines. It has happened that NSF AGAP funds will be available for Bloomington and Indianapolis campuses, both STEM disciplines and to include social sciences, but provost funds will be needed to recruit those from the humanities and arts disciplines.

Dean Wimbush reported that he is currently serving as the chair of the GRE board and the GRE is being revised, with the last administration of the current GRE July 31, 2011. The new test is targeted to do a better job of assessing the skills that are needed for graduate school and begin August 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be a reduction of fees (50%) during August and September so that they can create the score scale. The score results for August/September test takers will not be available until November 1<sup>st</sup> 2011. A new scale will be used for the new GRE, ranging from 130 to 170, with one point increments, instead of the 200-800 range with 10 point increments used with the old GRE. There will still be 3 parts and the subject tests will not change. He reported on the PPI (Personal Potential Index), a test designed to go beyond assessing cognitive abilities (knowledge) and also assess non-cognitive abilities. There are six categories, including, knowledge and creativity, communication skills, teamwork, resilience, planning and organization, and ethics and integrity. The PPI has been administered for 2 years and is free for students that take the GRE and the PPI evaluation scores are sent to institutions. The fee to take it independent of the GRE is \$25.00. He mentioned PPI could be used as an additional tool that programs could use to make decisions about admissions to the program.

The Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) is interested in Master's completion (previous project with PhD completion, key factors, funding, mentorship, family support among other factors) but still a need for understanding factors that lead to Master's completion. Sloane will fund a study to assess factors critical to Master's completion; where research topics explored will be topology of master's program, standardized definitions and templates, completion and attrition rates in a small sample of institutions in selected disciplines, reasons for enrollment, and factors related to students success and promising practices that might be used to improve outcomes. Five institutions will be selective competitively to provide completion and attrition data for several entering cohorts (so already need to have this data). These institutions will administer surveys and host site visits and receive \$35,000 each. The RFP will be issued in February, and is funded for 27 months.

Many of the campuses are participating in the Future Faculty Teaching Fellowship Program (FFTP). It provides doctoral candidates with a 1 year's experience for what is like to be a faculty member. Campuses will hear soon whether selected students will accept their offer.

The annual report for the Graduate School will be completed shortly.

## Report/comments from Associate Deans

### Associate Dean Queener

She reported that she continues to work on issues related to new degree proposals.

### Associate Dean Daleke

He reported that the two new Schools of Public Health are in development and he will be reporting to GFC with developments including interactions with the Commission on Higher Education.

He reported that the Herbert Graduate Fellowships are available. There are 5 doctoral fellowships (3 are filled) that are awarded for 4 years at \$25K/year and 5 master's fellowships (all unfilled) that are awarded for 1 year at \$10K. Students are eligible if they come from a historically black college for study towards study in the STEM disciplines.

He also mentioned that he has been working on a program with Chinghwa (sp?) University (top university for natural and physical science students) to recruit students to the Bloomington campus. The project was supported by the VP for International Affairs, the Graduate School, Graduate faculty and the students themselves. Graduate faculty hosted students for 8 weeks in the summer. He believes the program has been very successful and is willing to discuss this program as a targeted recruiting model for situations on other campuses.

#### 4. Report from Awards Committee.

The Awards Committee, chaired by Eric Isaacson, reviewed applications for Wells doctoral fellowship, 19 nominations were reviewed in two stages, and recently selected a student from Curriculum and Instruction from the School of Education, Julie Fry. The student will be recognized at the Awards ceremony 4-6 pm on April 28, 2011. [The awardee has not been announced so this information should be treated as confidential.]

#### 5. Results from email vote on revision to GFC Bylaws.

The members approved insertion of language for choosing a new member when a member is not able to serve his/her full term. [An update will be made to the Bylaws.]

#### 6. Committee Assignments.

The graduate initiatives and academic policy committees have not met yet and do not have chairs. Graduate Initiatives will examine online PhD degrees and has been asked to give an opinion on online PhD. (the charge is an open question examining the issue to consider things such as, criteria for a successful program, should online doctorate be offered online at all, etc). A discussion of the possible charge ensued. Sherry Sims will move to Graduate Initiatives Committee. Associate Dean Watson agreed to serve as an ex officio member of the Graduate Initiatives Committee.

7. Proposal to change the criteria under which PhD candidates attend graduation and hooding ceremony (Associate Dean Watson) See attachment of proposal for discussion loaded to Oncourse site meeting folder.

The Graduate School is concerned that students need have finished the requirements for the degree before a student participates in the graduation ceremony. An agreement on the date necessary for students to have met the requirements for participation in the ceremony is needed, as well as a decision on whose name is printed in the program, and a disclaimer that the program is not a statement for which students have earned their degree. This would require that the dates come out of the program and the students be listed alphabetically; a date for completion would be set according to the date required for printing of the programs. A long discussion ensued about this issue, there were suggestions from several GFC members that flexibility continue though the policy varied in requirements from campus to campus.

8. New business

A suggestion was made to expand the membership of the committees to increase pool that could serve as leaders and help get the work done. A suggestion was also made to include student members on these committees. Students will also be invited to join the committees.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm (Hassel, Sims)

Respectfully submitted,

Alyce Fly  
Secretary, Graduate Faculty Council