Minutes of the Graduate Council Meeting
November 14, 2008

Present: Karen Bell, Barbara Chorzempa, Laurel Garrick Duhaney, Liz Hester, Dan Kempton, Ying Lin, Bernadette Morris, Jon Raskin, Narcyz Roztocki, Anat Shiftan, Vika Shock, Judy Rance-Roney, Jan McLaurin

1. The minutes from the meeting of October 10 were unanimously approved.

2. Announcements
   a. Chris Vivas, president of Graduate Student Association, reported three items:
      o GSA held a successful election event last week;
      o The SA senate meeting approved a budget increase (from $300 to $400) to support GSA professional development activities;
      o The GSA will initiate a panel discussion on several issues in the following weeks.
   b. Karen Bell will sit in for Jon Raskin as presiding officer in spring 2009 while Jon is on sabbatical.

3. Old Business
   a. Feedback on Graduate Coordinators and Advisors Brunch
      o Going over paperwork so coordinators understand it is good; more of this kind of training could be helpful in the future;
      o Coordinators could benefit from further clarification of graduate school procedures, such as the purpose of each process and how different processes work;
      o At future brunches, it might help to provide with a fuller introduction of graduate programs before beginning the presentation.
   b. Update of the Research and Creative Project Award Subcommittee
      o Application files have been updated;
      o The decisions have not yet been made;
      o Judy Rance-Roney will replace Karen Bell, who is stepping off the RCPA committee to be interim presiding officer in Spring 2009;
      o The subcommittee members for Fall 2008 are:
         Barbara Chorzempa; Anat Shiftan; Jan McLaurin; Judy Rance-Roney
      o The subcommittee members for Spring 2009 are:
         Narcyz Roztocki; Liz Hester; Dan Kempton; Gweneth M. Lloyd
   c. Transfer Credit Policy Revised
      o The following motion was approved (10 for, 1 abstain):
         • Graduate students are only eligible to receive transfer credits for courses in which they earned a grade of “B” or better.
         • This replaces the old policy, which only required a “B-” or better

4. New business
a. Annual Graduate Faculty Meeting will be held on Nov 21st from 11:00 to 12:30 PM at CSB 110. Members of the Graduate Council are encouraged to go to this meeting. The topic of the meeting is an open discussion of university-wide graduate school admissions standards.

b. The Nov 21st Graduate Council meeting is cancelled.

c. Middle State Accreditation
   o Laurel talked about the purpose of a recent meeting on the Middle State Accreditation process. She encouraged all members to bring issues regarding this accreditation process back to their schools/departments for discussion.
   o Online Course Approval & Assessment Procedure
   o Jon raised two issues:
     • What is the best procedure for online course approval?
     • What kind of paperwork is needed for this procedure?
   o Laurel proposed that a guideline should be established regarding online course approval and assessment. She suggested that council invite experts with online course experience (e.g., via TLC) to hold information sessions.
   o Karen proposed council host a campus panel discussion related to online course issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30.

Submitted by Ying Lin