

Meeting of October 23, 2013, 2:00-3:30 p.m.  
Adamany Undergraduate Library, Community Room

**Agenda**

**I. Approval of Minutes:** September 18, 2013\*

**II. Report of the Chair**

**III. Old Business**

- A. Graduate Dean Selection Committee
- B. Background Check Policy Follow-up
- C. Academic Senate Liaisons
- D. Other Old Business

**IV. New Business**

- A. Dissolution of two School of Medicine Programs – MS in Psychiatry and GC in Global Pediatric Health\*
- B. Master's Enrollment Issues
- B. Other New Business

**V. Committee Reports**

- A. Executive Committee
- B. New Programs Committee
- C. Academic Standards Committee
- D. Graduate Admissions
- E. University Libraries Liaison
- F. Academic Senate Liaison

**VI. Adjournment**

\* attachment

**Minutes of the  
Regular Meeting of October 23, 2013  
2:00 p.m., Adamany Undergraduate Library, Community Room**

Members Present: K. Braunschweig, C. Chow, M. Clark, G. Deblase, M. Dickson, P. Dubinsky, J. Dunbar, D. Dungee-Anderson, J. Green, W. Gibson-Scipio, R. Holley, K. Jackson, P. Kernsmith, J. Martin, A. Mathur, D. McGrann, J. Moldenhauer, S. Ng, K. Paesani, J. Pruchnic, L. Schwiebert, P. Sopory, S. Terlecky, D. Walster, C. Winston, H. Wu, A. Yaprak, D. Yingst

Members Absent with Notice: A. Biswas, E. Faue, A. Feig, S. Firestine, G. Kapatos, G. Mao, D. Patterson,

Members Absent: J. Davis, M. Malek, D. Walz

Also Present: L. Beale, P. Beavers, L. Sabapathy, C. Sokol

The meeting was convened at 2:03 p.m. by the Chairperson, Ambika Mathur

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes of September 18, 2013.

**II. REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

- Interim Dean Mathur deferred her report until later in the meeting, stating the enrollment in master's programs comprised the basis of this month's report.

**III. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Graduate Dean Selection Committee

- The committee will be chaired by Matt Seeger, Dean of the College of Fine, Performing, and Communication Arts. The committee will include Joe Dunbar (Associate Vice President OVPR), Liz Faue (Professor of History), Andrew Feig (Professor of Chemistry), and a student from Classical and Modern Languages.
- The search will conclude by the end of the Fall 2013 semester.

B. Background Check Policy Follow-up

- Kate Paesani, Professor of Classical and Modern Languages, reported that a student in her department had serious issues while going through the background check policy. Miscommunication with A-Check resulted in a two month delay in the hiring process.
- Interim Dean Mathur stated that the Executive Committee has requested information such as benchmarks against other institutions, a fact sheet about the process, etc. HR and General Counsel have said they would provide us with all of that information. A link will be placed on the Graduate School's website as soon as this information is available.

C. Academic Senate Liaisons

- Graduate Council is still looking for volunteers to serve as liaison to the following Academic Senate committees: Curriculum and Instruction, Facilities, and Student Affairs.
  - Wanda Gibson-Scipio, Professor of Nursing, stated that she would consider serving as liaison to the Curriculum and Instruction Committee.
- For more information, please contact Marcus Dickson, Chair of the Executive Committee of Graduate Council.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Discontinuance of Two School of Medicine programs – MS in Psychiatry and GC in Global Pediatric Health.

- Stan Terlecky, Professor of Medicine, reported that these two programs were identified by the School of Medicine as underperforming. Dr. Mathur explained that the GC in Global Pediatric Health had declining enrollment because of the changes in resident duty hour requirements which precluded them from enrolling in this program.
- The vote to close these two programs passed unanimously without discussion.

B. Master's Enrollment Issues

- Interim Dean Mathur led a presentation on the current state of master's enrollments. Outside of two schools and colleges, enrollment in master's programs has been in steady decline in recent years. The deans of each school and college submitted a report to the Graduate School, identifying challenges, concerns, plans, etc. Interim Dean Mathur's presentation was informed by these reports.
- The need for improved marketing and recruitment strategies, the availability of scholarship funds and graduate advising, and data tracking and alumni development were common themes among all departments.
- Career outcomes and development is another key issue. Less than 5% of the job placements facilitated by the Office of Career Services are for graduate students. The university needs to do a better job of reaching out to local industry and identifying their needs.
- Interim Dean Mathur has begun planning to create a master's office in the Graduate School. The exact mission for this office is still being developed, and Interim Dean Mathur and Interim Associate Dean Jackson are meeting with deans and associate deans from each school and college to further assess individual needs. Interim Dean Mathur reminded the group that WSU's master's programs are very diverse, so it is going to be difficult to find a one-size-fits-all solution. Dr. Terlecky added that given the current lack of support, the Graduate Schools efforts are appreciated.
- Many council members brought issues facing their programs such as advising, scholarships, high costs for non-resident tuition, and pipelines for recruitment. Interim Dean Mathur reiterated that these are the issues that she will be considering.

C. Other New Business

- Mary Clark, Assistant Dean of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, announced that the college would be hosting an open house on October 30. She asked the council members to help advertise the event. She thanked the Graduate School for providing financial support for this event.

**V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Marcus Dickson, committee chair, stated that most of the issues from the October Executive Committee meeting had already been discussed. He urged attendance at the Graduate Directors Meeting of November 7<sup>th</sup>.

**B. NEW PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

- Interim Associate Dean Jackson reported that the committee's first meeting of the year occurred in late September. The group reviewed four proposals including the proposals to discontinue the two School of Medicine programs, which were discussed earlier. A moratorium to the MA in Mathematics was also approved as this has been replaced by an MS in Mathematics. A proposal for a joint MPH and MA in Nutrition and Food Science was returned for clarification.

**C. ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

- Interim Dean Mathur stated that three key issues were discussed. First, the data project is still being pursued. Progress had been slowed at the university level but is now picking up. Second, she announced that she will be heading to the NIH for a meeting in preparation for the implementation of the BEST grant. Finally, the Graduate School will be leading a proposal for a new NIH grant, BUILD, which will create a pipeline to WSU graduate programs and focus on diversity.

**D. UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES LIAISON**

- Paul Beavers reported that the Science and Engineering Library will close on December 24, 2013. The most recent two years of journals have been moved to Purdy Kresge, and they are also working to back up journals electronically.

**E. ACADEMIC SENATE LIAISON**

- Linda Beale, Professor of Law, stated that master's enrollment has also been discussed at Policy Committee. She continued that was the question about graduate fees being so much higher than undergraduate fees has also been raised and noted that this can lead to recruitment problems.
- Dr. Beale also mentioned that SET evaluations have been a topic of discussion. Policy Committee is considering the utility of these scores and whether the evaluations need to be expanded or contracted. She mentioned that these were preliminary discussions.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David McGrann  
Manager of the Graduate Council