

Meeting of March 20, 2013, 2:00-3:30 p.m.
Adamany Undergraduate Library, Community Room

Agenda

I. Approval of Minutes: February 20, 2013*

II. Report of the Chair

III. Old Business

- A. Proposal for an MS in Mathematics – final comments and vote
- B. Other Old Business

IV. New Business

- A. Graduate Exhibition Follow-up
- B. Graduate School Restructuring
- D. Other New Business

V. Committee Reports

- A. Executive Committee
- B. New Programs Committee
- C. Academic Standards Committee
- D. Graduate Admissions
- F. Academic Senate Liaison
- G. Graduate Council Liaisons to Academic Senate

VI. Adjournment

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**Minutes of the
Regular Meeting of March 20, 2013
2:00 p.m., Adamany Undergraduate Library, Community Room**

Members Present: M. Anderson, L. Buis, A. Cano, C. Chow, M. Clark, M. Dickson, P. Dubinsky, J. Dunbar, D. Dungee-Anderson, A. Feig, J. Green, J. Holbert, R. Holley, K. Jackson, G. Kapatos, P. Kernsmith, A. Mathur, J. Moldenhauer, S. Ng, K. Paesani, R. Pauley, L. Schwiebert, P. Sopory, A. Weisz, C. Winston, H. Wu, A. Yaprak, J. Yoon

Members Absent
with Notice: A. Biswas, E. Faue, A. Kowluru, G. Mao, S. Terlecky

Members Absent: J. Davis, M. Malek, B. Neavill

Also Present: L. Romano, C. Sokol

The meeting was convened at 2:06 p.m. by the Chairperson, Ambika Mathur

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes of March 20, 2013.

II. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

- Interim Dean Mathur indicated that her report would coincide with the Graduate School Restructuring topic under New Business.

III. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Proposal for an MS in Mathematics – final comments and vote
- There was no further discussion of this proposal. The motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the MS in Mathematics.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Graduate Exhibition Follow-up
- Interim Dean Mathur thanked Cindy Sokol, Charlotte Winston and Ken Jackson, Interim Associate Dean of the Graduate School for planning and organizing the event. Interim Associate Dean Jackson noted that over 100 students participated, and he thanked all of the faculty who served as judges. Interim Dean Mathur added that nearly all of the schools and colleges were represented among the winners. A list of prize winners is available on the

Graduate School's website. Graduate Council members are encouraged to share their thoughts on potential improvements, especially with regard to better marketing.

B. Graduate School Restructuring

- Interim Dean Mathur introduced a plan for the future administration of the Graduate School. The proposed plan would be cost neutral and it would focus on the emphasis and clarification of duties within the Graduate School as recommended by the Huron Consulting Group.
 - In addition to Graduate Council and the Graduate Directors, Interim Dean Mathur would like the PhD Advisory Group and the Masters Advisory Group to play a larger role in identifying the current issues and needs for each graduate degree-level.
 - Data collection and tracking will be a central theme of the Graduate School moving forward. Data from admissions applications and from a new centralized PhD annual review form will be integral to this effort.
 - Retaining and recruiting quality students are two issues facing nearly every graduate program. Interim Dean Mathur urged everyone to be diligent in recruiting efforts from attend events to maintaining accurate information on websites and other marketing materials. She also reminded everyone that the Graduate School does have a small pool of money available to provide matching funds for college/department/program-level recruitment. Requests for matching funds should be addressed to Interim Dean Mathur and Assistant Dean Joe Dunbar. Assistant Dean Dunbar is also working to prepare a general pamphlet on graduate opportunities at WSU that would be applicable to a number of units across the university. He hopes this will be available toward the middle to end of 2013.
 - In terms of retention, she mentioned scholarships for master's programs that were introduced strategically during the 2012-13 academic year. These scholarships will be expanded to be more inclusive of the university at large. The Graduate School and all advisory groups will be tasked with developing strategies to improve retention numbers.
 - Finally, increasing career development at the graduate level is extremely important, and it is an issue that has been highlighted by the NIH and NSF. Moreover, career development is the focus of a NIH grant proposal being prepared by Interim Dean Mathur and others across the university. The hope is to be able to offer some level of exposure to multiple career pathways that includes mentorship. Interim Dean Mathur is hopeful that the Office of Teaching and Learning will be involved with this effort.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Marcus Dickson, Professor of Psychology and Chair of the Executive Committee, reported has been actively discussing the issues related to restructuring the Graduate School.

B. NEW PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Interim Associate Dean Jackson reported that the next meeting would be taking place on Monday, March 25th.

C. ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Andrew Feig, Professor of Chemistry, has been leading the development of a centralized form for the PhD annual review. A test of the new form will be conducted this summer among four volunteer programs.

D. GRADUATE ADMISSIONS

Kathy Lueckeman, Director of Graduate Admissions, was excused from the meeting; however, Interim Dean Mathur reported that there were no major updates since the previous meeting.

F. ACADEMIC SENATE LIAISON

Lou Romano, President of the Academic Senate, discussed a number of budget-related issues. Most significantly, there are plans to build a new laboratory building. The Department of Physics and College of Engineering would find the most utility from such a project; however, Chemistry and Biology might also use the facility. A joint committee of administrators and faculty will be working on this issue.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David McGrann
Manager of the Graduate Council