The Graduate Council

Minutes of the
Regular Meeting of March 21, 2012
2:00 p.m., Adamany Undergraduate Library, Community Room


Members Absent with Notice: J. Casida, J. Green, A. Kowluru, S. Ng

Members Absent: J. Brandell, C. Chow, J. Davis, R. Hutson, M. Malek, G. Mao

Also Present: D. Atkinson, C. Barduca, K. Lueckeman, C. Sokol, H. Tolbert

The meeting was convened at 2:03 p.m. by the Chairperson, Hilary Ratner, Interim Dean of the Graduate School.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION was made by Professor Andrew Feig, seconded by Professor Bob Holley, and passed to approve the minutes of 2/15/2012.

II. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

- Interim Dean Ratner reported that earlier in the day, the BOG recommended 3 programs for approval: Master of Laws in U.S. Law, Graduate Certificate in Business, and the transfer of the CADAS program from the Graduate School to the School of Social Work.
- Interim Dean Ratner thanked everyone – students, judges, organizers – who participated in the Graduate Exhibition on March 6th, and she announced that five Wayne State students would be participating in the 2012 Michigan Graduate Education Day in Lansing on March 29. The five presenters will be from English, Classical Languages, Physics, Biological Sciences, and Molecular Medicine and Genetics.
- She mentioned that Gov. Snyder’s metrics for education do not include graduate studies, but these might include research.
- Interim Dean Ratner announced that former Wayne State professor Alice Young had canceled her visit. Interim Dean Ratner, however, said that she would work with the Executive Committee and the Master’s and PhD Advisory groups to develop a plan to address the questions intended for Professor Young’s visit.
- She concluded her report with a discussion of the MEDC-sponsored Entrepreneur Services Bus Tour, which will be visiting Michigan’s major campuses and supporting tech communities in April. The tour will visit the Danto Engineering Development Center on Tuesday, April 17 at 10:15am, and it will consist of a 75 minute presentation. There also be presentation later that day (noon) at Next Energy.
IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Harl Tolbert, Associate Vice President for Technology Commercialization
   • Mr. Tolbert has been with the university for about 8 weeks. He has previous experience in technology transfer at the University of Rochester Medical Center and Tulane University. He also has experience in technology transfer from the industry side, working with a vehicle company.
   • The Office of Technology Commercialization at Wayne State has two groups:
     o Commercialization Principals (choose patents, manage technology, etc.)
     o Legal Administrative Staff (an attorney is on staff)
   • Mr. Tolbert stated that Office of Technology Commercialization will be expanding by adding staff.
   • Mr. Tolbert listed some of the goals of his office:
     o Increase licensing
     o Increase participation
     o Facilitate sponsored research
     o Facilitate economic development
   • Mr. Tolbert’s PowerPoint presentation is attached at the end of the minutes.

B. Dennis Atkinson, Director of Corporate Engagement, the Front Door
   • Mr. Atkinson has an engineering (electrical and biomedical) background and much of his career was spent in industry. He has worked for GE and Siemens, programming medical energy. About six years ago, he switched to academia as Director of Corporate Research at USC.
   • Front Door was established at Wayne in 2009, and it seeks to address industry needs for university resources. Mr. Atkinson stated that Front Door will be working with Tech Town and university alumni and development. Like the Office of Tech Com, Front Door is looking to increase its staff and operations.
   • A key part of their initiatives involves the Michigan Corporate Relations Network (MCRN), which includes: Michigan State, Michigan Tech, U of M, U of M – Dearborn, Wayne State, and Western Michigan. These universities contribute 98% of academic research in Michigan.
   • According to Mr. Atkinson, Front Door is currently working to help small start-up companies through fund-matching and internship programs.
   • Mr. Atkinson’s PowerPoint presentation is attached at the end of the minutes.

C. Graduate Dean 2N Selection Committee
   • Professor Ken Jackson stated that this discussion could also serve as the Executive Committee report.
   • According to Prof. Jackson, Graduate Council has been determined by the Provost to be the representative faculty for the purposes of a 2N Selection Committee for the Dean of the Graduate School. Thus, two of the selection committee members will come from Graduate Council.
   • Professor Jackson stated that council members had until 5:00 PM, Friday, March 23, to supply nominations to David McGrann, Manager of the Graduate Council. He continued that a formal election system would follow once the nomination period concluded.

D. Other New Business
   • Ambika Mathur, Assoc. Dean of the Graduate School, reported that discussions are under way for a Graduate Certificate in Health Informatics. Farshad Fotouhi, Dean of the College of Engineering has taken the lead on this project, and the planning group has expanded from five to twenty participants. She stated that the group is currently looking at course development.
V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
   • See above – “Graduate Dean 2N Selection Committee”

B. NEW PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
   • Assoc. Dean Mathur reported:
     o The consolidation of concentrations in the PhD in Communication has been approved and is in the Provost’s Office
     o On March 20, 2012, the committee approved an Adult Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Graduate Certificate and a Joint MS Criminal Justice/JD. Both of these will need to go to the BOG.
     o A Master of Social Work with a dual-title in Infant Mental Health and a PhD in Social Work with a dual-title in Infant Mental Health were conditionally approved on March 20.
     o The agenda for April includes: the addition of concentrations to the MBA, revisions to the MS in Immunology and Micro Biology, and a Doctor of Nursing Practice with a dual-title in Infant Mental Health.

C. ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE
   • The March meeting was cancelled.

D. GRADUATE ADMISSIONS
   • Kathy Lueckeman, Director of Graduate Admissions, reported that applications are up 15.5% and admits are up 49.6% for Fall 2012. She credited the efficiency of the online process for the large increases.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David McGrann, Secretary of the Graduate Council