

Graduate Faculty Council Minutes

(Monday October 3, 2011)

3:30-5:00pm

APPROVED

Video Bridge 22116

Bloomington, Poplars 185
Indianapolis, University Library 1116
East, Whitewater WZ 119
Fort Wayne, Helmke B 37

Kokomo, Main Bldg KO 214
Northwest, Hawthorne HH 338
Southeast, Crestview Hall 028A
South Bend, Northside Hall 075B

1. Attendance

Those present were Shirley Aamidor, Jacqueline Blackwell, Alisa Clapp-Itnyre, David Daleke, Deborah Finkel, Alyce Fly, Gail Hickey, Luise McCarty, Sara Pryor, Sherry Queener, Maxine Watson, James C. Williams, James Wimbush, and Jody Smith

Those absent were Simon Atkinson, George Bodmer, Maria Bucur-Deckard, Nick D'Amico, John Hassel, Britney-Shea Herbert, Kevin Hunt, Eric Isaacson, Kathy Johnson, Vicky Meretsky, Kate Myers, Martha Oakley, Tara Prater-Hobson, P.N. Saksena, Marty Siegel, Sharon Sims, and Marianne Wokeck.

2. The Minutes from February 7, 2011 were approved (Blackwell, McCarty).
Approved minutes will be posted on the Oncourse site.

3. Dean's Report

Dean Wimbush thanked everyone for their service on the Graduate Faculty Council. He announced the Associate Dean Maxine Watson will become the new PI for the McNair Program grant and serve as director with assistance from Jan Barron.

He also indicated the University Graduate School will the "Getting you to IU" program next week. This program focuses on attracting under-represented minorities. Students will arrive on Sunday with a full day of programming on Monday and Tuesday, coordinated by Yolanda Trevino and Char Mitchell. The program is funded from the AGAP grant source for STEM fills and from Presidents Diversity Initiative funds for students from non-STEM disciplines.

A third item addressed the Human Resources and Marketing resources study at the university. With respect to communications and marketing the study suggested that IU should become more streamlined in this area. The university trustees also believe that communications are too large and IU is putting out too many brochures and reports, etc. As a result, the communications offices have worked to reorganize and comply with study recommendations and concerns by the Trustees to reduce the number of publications. The Graduate School made the decision to discontinue the Annual Report in effort to comply, and will continue on just with the newsletters alone.

The revised GRE was launched August 1, 2011. Scored reports will not be available until after November 1 so that scale can be established. Feedback from test-takers has been consistently positive. He has had some sessions to brief faculty on changes (e.g., new scale) and answer questions.

He thanked the Council for sending their response, supporting recommendation 2, to the New Academic Directions Report. The recommendation to disband the Graduate School was a late addition to the proposal that was never discussed by the New Academic Directions Committee. There was an open response period that ended June 30, 2011. The Graduate School made a case that there was a need to maintain the Graduate School and acknowledged a need for improvement, offering two options. One option retained the program as is, the second, was to protect the PhD degrees (with consistency and standards to ensure academic integrity), and had the Graduate School overseeing the programs at IU Bloomington and IUPUI. Regional campuses would have the authority to oversee their graduate programs delegated to them. Dean Wimbush made the decision to pursue the second recommendation. At the President's retreat in August, it was revealed through the slide presentation that the program would be decentralized to the campuses and the Academic Leadership Committee (ALC) would be charged with implementing the decentralization. He reported that the ALC structured to include Charles Bantz, John Applegate, and Karen Hanson as the Executive Committee of the ALC). He does not know if the decentralization will be applied campus-wide. Council members queried Dean Wimbush regarding implementation of the report and decided to invite ALC members to GFC meetings to learn more about the situation. The GFC chair agreed to compose the letter from GFC to ALC. He will also repost the original letter (from GFC) sent to New Academic Directions Committee.

Associate Dean Queener reported she is working on the 2012 NCA accreditation visit.

Associate Dean Daleke reported that there were no new programs coming, but a new department from HPER Bloomington was being developed as a move to the School of Public health and he will report on this to the GFC.

4. Elections

Jim Williams plans to set up the elections and seek nominations for new members. Cathy Johnson has resigned from GFC and Simon Atkinson has become a chair so these positions should be filled. David Daleke offered that Graduate School will assist in making final email lists available for the election process.

5. Committee reports (1)

Eric Isaacson sent a report from the Awards committee (Isaacson, Williams, Oakley, Herbert, Clapp-Itnyre). The Wells Graduate Fellowship was awarded to Julie Fry, IU School of Education, Bloomington. The Esther Kinsley Doctoral Dissertation Award went to Jonathon Hogatt from School of Medicine at IUPUI. Additional awards this committee handles include the Kinsley Master's Thesis Award and the Santosh Jane Endowed Memorial Scholarship. He coordinated an adjustment in the timelines with Yvonne Dwigans this next year so that the awards are distributed throughout the year and the committee has time to thoroughly read all the nominations. Eric Isaacson's report will be filed with the minutes. In response to a question, D. Daleke reported that the Edwards

Fellowship has been handled by a committee overseen by the Office of the Vice President for International Affairs. Due to a retirement, the competition has been transferred to the Graduate School. Because it was running smoothly, he suggested that the same committee continue handling this competition (also coordinated by Yvonne Dwigans).

6. New Business

The Council itemized some issues that were not addressed last year, including, online PhD degrees, forms for dissertation, how and whether to do dissertation defenses at a distance, and commencement issues. The Dean's office will prepare and resend items that they would like feedback on in a time-sensitive order of priority.

Associate Dean Watson added another concern about decentralization of the Graduate School, aside from academic concerns. She mentioned that moving the recording functions to each campus may require duplicating functions and decreasing efficiency. It was agreed that this would be another point to discuss with ALC members.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 pm (Aamidor, McCarty).

Respectfully submitted,

Alyce Fly
Secretary, Graduate Faculty Council