

Graduate Council Meeting November 2, 2009

Attendees: Estie Arkin (Applied Mathematics and Statistics), Ruth Ben-Zvi (Economics), Alicia DeRosalia (Graduate School), Dante Di Ianni (Graduate Student Advocate), Elaine Hoffman (Library), Michael Kifer (Computer Science), Sara Lipton (History), Kent Marks (Graduate School), Lawrence Martin (Dean, Graduate School), Anne McElroy (SOMAS), Brian Phillips (Geoscience), Susan Scheckel (English), A. Laurie Shroyer (Preventative Medicine), Marcia Simon (Dental School), Arleen Steckel (Nursing School), Charles Taber (Political Science and Associate Dean, Graduate School), Jacobus Verbaarschot (Chair, Physics & Astronomy), Elizabeth Vink (GSO)

Absent Members: Matthew Aiello-Lammens (GSO), Allegra de Laurentiis (Philosophy), Susan O'Leary (Psychology)

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by the Graduate Council Chair, Jacobus Verbaarschot. Introductions were made to Susan Scheckel, who is a Graduate Council Member however was unable to attend the meetings when they were held on Tuesdays.

Approval of minutes

Minutes were approved from the 10/20/09 meeting.

Chair's Report

- Library Review - Jac has requested a copy of the report
- Charles Taber talked about the Provost's Graduate Student Lecture Series. This year's speakers have been chosen, but will be open for the following academic year in Spring.
- Discussed 0 credit courses – should be a department decision

Old Business

- Discussed S. Korea Initiative
 - ACTION: Jac to draft letter to Eric Kaler (Provost) which will include feedback from the Council. Will bring to next meeting for review.

New Business

- Discussed Health Issues
 - Mental Health: Do we do enough to help students? Should the Mental Health Center hold a smaller scale orientation?
 - Hepatitis-B: should all Grad students be required to get vaccinated? ACTION: Jac to speak to Peter Baigent about this concern

Dean's Report

- Recently attended a system-wide AGEP meeting to discuss Phase III funding applications
- At this year's GPD Retreat, Steve Riccobono (Assistant Director, HR) discussed RA Union contract negotiations. There was some interest from the Directors about creating a panel to be kept informed about negotiations. The Dean advised the council to get their Graduate Program Directors involved on this panel.
- Discussed how President is working on **SUNY flex legislation**
 - This will allow the SUNY Board of Trustees to take over establishing tuition costs (annual increase to reflect cost of living)

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by Alicia DeRosalia
Staff Assistant, Graduate School