

Graduate Council  
October 1, 2007

**Attendees:** Charles Taber (Political Science and Chair), Estie Arkin (Applied Mathematics and Statistics), Ruth Ben-Zvi (Economics), Debra Caffrey (Graduate School), Allegra DeLaurentiis (Philosophy), Peter Gergen (Graduate School), Susana Huidobro (Graduate Student Advocate), Kent Marks (Graduate School), Lawrence Martin (Dean, Graduate School), Anne McElroy (MSRC), Susan O'Leary (Psychology), Brian Phillips (Geosciences), Marcia Simon (Dental School), Arleen Steckel (Nursing School)

**Absent Members:** Andrei Antonenko (GSO), Godlind Johnson (Library), Celia Marshik (English), IV Ramakrishnan (Computer Science), Ryan Soule (GSO)

**Guest Attendee:** Graham Glynn (Teaching, Learning, and Technology)

**The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by the Graduate Council Chair, Charles Taber.**

### **Approval of minutes**

The minutes from the September 17, 2007 meeting were approved with minor corrections.

### **Chair's Report**

- **External Review Schedule:** The Graduate Council is represented for the next few Academic Reviews during the Fall Semester.
- **Residency Rules for Tuition:** As per the discussion at last meeting, Stony Brook was in non-compliance with laws involving state tuition, and the protocols that were recently clarified restored this compliance. The GSO would like these policies to be deferred for a year. Charles will discuss this issue further with the GSO, Student Accounts, and the Vice President for Finance and Administration in hopes of communicating our concerns with Albany.
- **Waiver of SHIP for International Students:** It was reported that there is a claim from an international student articulating that Stony Brook is no longer allowing students under an F1 Visa to waive SHIP, a state health insurance policy. Before further discussion on this matter can occur, Charles will inquire about the details of this claim.

### **New Business**

- **Election of GCAC Members:** Susan volunteered to serve on this committee. One more faculty member will be recommended.
- **Graduate Student Teaching Certificate Program:** Graham Glynn was present to detail the strategic plan for this program. The basic purpose is to improve teaching at Stony Brook while enhancing the marketability and credentials of TAs. There was some concern about this program replacing already successful teaching practicums, however,

Graham stressed that this would hopefully create incentive for students to receive a certificate in what they are already immersed in. The Council encouraged overall flexibility so that all programs would be able to participate. There was also a suggestion for this program to be issued jointly between Teaching, Learning, and Technology and the Graduate School. The Graduate Council will endorse this proposal when it is ready.

- **Letter of Intent for PhD in Technology, Policy, and Innovation:** The Council agreed that an endorsement from the Dean is necessary. In addition, it should be clarified where the potential students are being recruited from, and what kind of market is foreseen in their future. A motion was made to approve this letter of intent pending the request for amendments. All approved.

### **Old Business**

- **Conflicts of Interest:** This item will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

### **Dean's Report**

- **GSO:** Lawrence forewarned the Council that the GSO recently had a disagreement with the editor of their newsletter, should this issue arise in the future.
- **Website GA:** A new GA for website assistance will be starting in the Graduate School, but will be supervised by Lynn Zawie of Communications. He will be reaching out to graduate programs to offer his assistance with individual websites.
- **GPD Retreat:** The Graduate Program Directors' Retreat will take place on October 12 and will cover various issues concerning graduate education such as TA stipends and Critical Incident Management protocol.

### **Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.**

Submitted by Debra Caffrey

Staff Assistant, The Graduate School