

**Graduate Council Minutes
February 23, 2021
Webex**

Present: Wissam AbouAlaiwi, Defne Apul, Brian Ashburner, Timothy Brakel, Jonathan Bossenbroek, Frank Calzonetti, Saurab Chattopadhyay, Wendy Cochrane, Heather Conti, Daniel Georgiev, David Giovannucci, Dan Hammel, Mohamed Samir Hefzy, Marthe Howard, Gary Insch, Brittany Jones (GSA), Andrea Kalinoski, Ken Kilbert, John Laux, Abraham Lee, Linda Lewin, Sara Lundquist, Nagalakshmi Nadiminty, Penny Poplin Gosetti, Ellen Pullins, Geoffrey Rapp, Patricia Relue, Barry Scheuermann, Beth Schlemper, Rebecca Schneider, Zahoor Shah, Ekaterina Shemyakova, Ruslan Slutsky, Susan Sochacki, Steve Sucheck, Varun Vaidya, Jerry Van Hoy, Eileen Walsh, Kandace Williams.

Absent: Christina Fitzgerald.

Excused: Madeline Clark, Martha Sexton.

Guests: Karen Bjorkman, Timothy Mueser (GCCC Chair), Amy Thompson.

Graduate Research Award Recipients:

Masuma Akter, Daniyah Almarghalani, Sudipta Baroi, Rachel Golonka, Syed Hasan, Eric Huber, Farzaneh Naghavi, Sara Moore, Yesmin Rina.

Graduate Advisors: Mohammed Elahinia, Ala Qattawi, Beata Lecka-Czernik, Matam Vijay-Kumar, Lauren Koch, William Hintz, Viviana Ferreira, Joseph Schmidt.

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Approval of Minutes

The meeting was called to order and the roll called. The Minutes of the Graduate Council meeting of December 1, 2020 were approved.

Information and Discussion Items

The COGS within RCM, Question and Answer with Provost Bjorkman

Chair Wendy Cochrane welcomed Provost Bjorkman and thanked her for joining Graduate Council for a conversation on RCM budget model, an incentive based system that has many flavors and where on spectrum we will land is to be determined. How the academic colleges and College of Graduate Studies fits into the system are all pieces to be determined. Provost Bjorkman was invited to provide opening remarks prior to addressing questions by the Graduate Council.

Provost Karen Bjorkman

Provost Karen Bjorkman began by stating that graduate and professional programs are very important to the University, and that she is a huge supporter of them. She thinks we need to be as thoughtful about this as other things under discussion, including moving to an RCM budget model.

This is basically an incentive-based budget model that has many possible flavors, and where we land on the spectrum of possibilities does raise questions about all of our colleges, how they fit into that scenario, and how we continue to support the fundamental missions of our university, which involve our undergraduate, graduate and professional programs. All of those things are pieces of our mission as a university. Provost Bjorkman responded to questions Q1 – Q4 provided by the GC Executive Committee.

Q1: As of Spring census, the University of Toledo has 3,878 graduate/professional students enrolled in approximately 170 graduate programs with 1,028 receiving some form of funding through the Provost and College of Graduate Studies. As you look to the future, do you see the University undergoing any realignment or restructuring, particularly as it relates to graduate education, in order to support the distinctive needs of the graduate students?

Do you think there is a need to review and revise the COGS role and responsibilities in order to enhance its ability to support the changing expectations and needs of both traditional, research-based education, as well as the professional programs?

Around 1,000 of those students receive some sort of funding through the Provost's Office or the College of Graduate Studies. As I look to the future, do I see the University undergoing any sort of a significant restructuring, particularly as it relates to graduate education and the distinctive needs of the graduate students? I guess an alternate version of that question might be: do I think there's a need to review and revise the COGS' role and responsibilities in order to enhance the ability to support the changing expectations and needs?

We do have sort of two flavors of graduate education. And so, we have to think carefully about how we do things, and not just for graduate programs. We need to consider how we do many things. Particularly in an era of declining resources, the need to build our enrollment and fulfill our mission is important and challenging. There are things we need to think about in terms of how we can best streamline and be more efficient in what we are trying to do so that we can continue to do them well while supporting our students. I don't have any easy answers for that right now, nor do I have a set of expectations about what that might look like going forward. Whether it looks like a version of COGS in whatever flavor that might be, whether it looks like a decentralized model, I think there are questions around that as well. Certainly, there is no reason to duplicate efforts, so I want to be careful to say that I would not advocate for setting up separate, little "mini" COGSs within every college. That does not make sense. Even in an RCM model, there are centralized functions that will still be important for supporting each of the colleges and their missions. Duplication of effort is neither efficient nor cost effective.

Q2: Starting with the assumption that the budget/allocation for graduate assistant funding will be decentralized and incorporated into each College's budget:

- *Are there any plans to review the current allocations and to either adjust the amounts allocated to each College based on an algorithm provided by Huron Consulting and/or an internal task force?*

- *Would there be any need to continue with the new practice of requiring some grants to request and fund tuition from grants?*
- *Would a budget be retained within COGS or the Provost's office to support administrative assistants?*
- *Would you anticipate that the role of the Associate Deans for Graduate Affairs would also change so that either new or existing relationships with the central administration would be established?*

I do not think we have an answer to that yet, because we don't quite know what the RCM model is going to look like at UToledo, as we are just beginning to flesh out some of those details. We will be meeting with Huron Consulting and the Deans later in March. I do not know whether there will be any additional review of allocations and adjustments. We do have to think about that, but I'm not sure that algorithm is going to be defined in any way by the model. I think that's got to be a broader discussion. Because there are many uncertainties still, I'm going to say for many things, we simply don't know yet.

Would we still need to continue with the new practice of requiring some grants to request and fund tuition? I think the answer to that question is yes. I do understand that there is some concern about the level at which we do that. I have had discussions with our Vice President for Research, Frank Calzonetti, about that and we may be making some tweaks to that process. However, the reality is that in order to continue to support strong research-based graduate education, we are going to need to be able to at least fund some of these students on grants. One of the areas we have not really dipped into very well yet is some of the training grant funding that is available from the federal government. There are opportunities for that we should be pursuing that require some thoughtfulness about the kinds of programs that best fit into those models and how can we work together.

Whether the budget would be retained within COGS or in the Provost's Office to support administrative assistants, we have not teased out that specific difference. I recognize that there are important roles for some graduate students to have support by serving as administrative assistants in certain roles. This is obviously a question we need to think about as we work through this budget process and the role of the associate dean for graduate affairs. I think that's going to be contingent on what happens with how we structure the graduate college going forward. Again, that might still be COGS, or it might be a slightly revised version of COGS, or it might be a stand-alone Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs (the Dean of COGS currently holds that title as well). So, regardless of which way we end up structuring this, our graduate programs are not going away. They are extremely important to us, so we want to make sure is that we are able to support them in the best possible way. As to how that looks, I just want to make sure that it's robust and strong and efficient, so that we can maximize the effectiveness of that program. As we work through these issues, it will raise a lot of other questions.

Q3: While many might agree that graduate and professional students benefit from interaction with one another and that in some instances, a clear delineation between programs may not be possible, however would you consider arranging Graduate and Professional separately (but still under COGS) if it could lead to a better alignment of incentives, improved communication with and between programs and perhaps, an improved method for identifying "revenue" versus "cost" programs?

There has been some discussion that the delineation between programs may not be possible because of crossover interaction and other things. The question is really about whether we should consider arranging graduate and professional programs separately, but still under COGS (or whatever that looks like), if it could lead to a better alignment of incentives, better communication between programs and so on.

I'm a big proponent of interdisciplinary conversations. One of the strengths that we like to tout as a university is our breadth of programs, in terms of expertise and research areas. The world we live in today requires a lot of input from a lot of different disciplines and no one discipline can effectively tackle some of the major problems that we face in the world these days.

We have to think through what that looks like, not just from the standpoint of how our faculty and departments and colleges can work together and be effective, but that they also receive appropriate credit and how we make sure that our students are getting the experience they need in order to be able to think in an interdisciplinary way. We need to be able to recognize the strengths in working in teams bringing different expertise to the table. Although there are a number of small-scale things that we do at the institution that allow for students to have those opportunities, I do not think we do enough of that. Those are some things that we need to be thoughtful about in how we can structure those kinds of things. We can't afford to live in silos anymore. We really need to be working together. Of course, there are already examples at UToledo of teamwork from across different colleges and departments that have come together to form a powerhouse research area. We need to be thoughtful about how we incentivize, reward and recognize that, both for faculty and students, making sure they are adequately recognized for working in an interdisciplinary field. Because that's not the norm, it's not the thing that everybody's used to, and it sometimes causes some headaches in terms of traditional views. So that is probably something we ought to think through.

Q4: Can you envision a structural or organizational model whereby the centralization and/or decentralization of current COGS functions leads to an improvement in shared resources. For example, there has been some discussion and movement towards centralizing graduate and undergraduate admissions but there has been little discussion on how this will improve efficiencies for either COGS or the revenue generating colleges.

- *are there other examples where processes may be centralized or decentralized where you think there may be an opportunity for gaining financial efficiencies?*
- *are there any personnel (organizational) changes that are being considered for COGS?*
- *is a national search for a permanent dean being considered and if yes, it is anticipated to start soon?*

In terms of the discussion toward centralizing admissions or how this will approve efficiencies, there was a conversation about getting CAS up and running. However, there has been a change in our enrollment management leadership. We have an interim in that role right now, and I've had a conversation with him already about what is this going to look like, in terms of our admissions process, graduate admissions, CAS as an admissions project, and also the contact management system to communicate with prospective students. For now, roll out of CAS is planned, but I am not certain when, due to other immediate concerns to make sure that we get enrollment built backup.

There will be some examples where processes are centralized or decentralized. It is important to think about how we can do these things effectively and efficiently. Also, a matter of effectiveness in admitting graduate students, we all know we need to move quickly on making offers to really great students.

We need to be very proactive about pursuing and helping them understand the opportunities that we have at UToledo. Any ways that we can help to speed up that process would be helpful. My personal point of view is that effectiveness is a little higher priority than efficiency. So, in terms of personnel or organizational changes for COGS, nothing has been determined around that. That's really a conversation that I want to have with the graduate faculty and with COGS and with Interim COGS Dean Barry Scheuermann. We need to think about some models that work or don't work and what makes sense for us in terms of both effectiveness and efficiency, and how can we go about doing that.

Are we going to launch a national search? At this point, probably not, because we need to make some important decisions first. It doesn't make sense to search for a permanent Dean when we don't know yet what the structure is going to look like. That has to be settled first. Then we start with something to build on in order to launch a national search.

I have quickly run through your questions. Those are my initial thoughts in reading through these questions. I did not answer specifically any of those questions because I think all of these are still open, but I welcome the questions because I think these are important conversations that we need to have. And with that, I will open it up and we can have more of a conversation than me talking.

Discussion/Question and Answer with Provost Bjorkman:

Q: Wissam Aboualaiwi noted that regarding the Provost's comment about the need for training grant applications, the faculty in the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (CPPS) have been successful in obtaining students through NIH training grants, R15s, however, few years ago, the University decided that CPPS is no longer eligible for R15s. He asked whether the University is considering revisiting this issue which is a strong funding mechanism that will help fund and train graduate students?

A: Provost Bjorkman indicated that Main Campus is eligible and that Pharmacy kind of got cut out. Not yet successful in getting that turned around, but more efforts are underway.

Q: Chair Wendy Cochrane asked the Provost whether she has to remind people that undergraduate and graduate education comparisons are not apples to apples.

A: Provost Bjorkman responded that she does remind people that UG and G are different adding that President Postel understands the importance of graduate programs and is highly committed to graduate education. Some committees do not include many graduate faculty.

Provost Bjorkman asked Graduate Council for their input on structures and options of graduate colleges at other institutions that seem to work well. Research and graduate affairs does not make sense since there are too many distinctions between the roles that they play.

Is COGS still an appropriate way to go or a stand-alone Vice Provost under the Provost, but still COGS? She asked for input on admissions in COGS until we have input from the Interim VP of Enrollment. Once our new CRM module, which has been purchased, is up and running, it will be much better, but it will be a heavy lift to get it up and running. This CRM program, while best one out there, has to be carefully integrated with CAS. We want them to work together. There are some caveats about how quickly to get CAS rolling. For the time being, admissions will still live in COGS. Most professional, Law and MD program handle their own admissions.

Q: Chair Cochrane asked what options for COGS might look like and whether it is possible for COGS to stay as is, financially?

A: Provost Bjorkman replied that within the RCM budget model because COGS doesn't bring in income, it is a support area, similar to Human Resources and University Libraries. That would be where it would sit, not at the same level as the academic colleges, but as a support unit.

Q: How does this affect Graduate Council?

A: Provost Bjorkman stated that her initial thought is that whether COGS is changed or not, we need Graduate Council. Faculty governance is an important part of what we do and how we do it. Our mission demands that. And it is important to recognize that there are differences with undergraduate education. We would not see Graduate Council going away.

Q: Dan Hammel noted that with the various roles in graduate education, he does not have a problem with the current model of COGS. This year, it seems necessary with graduate allocation given as a lump sum. If deans are completely responsible, they have to be able to move money around.

A: Provost Bjorkman pointed out that Deans will have some flexibility as to how they allocate, and that she has seen it done many different ways over the years. We will know more as RCM gets more fleshed out whether allocations will be permanent to the colleges or on a year-by-year basis based on need and performance.

Q: Samir Hefzy inquired when the colleges will have a budget for FY 22, academic year 2021-2022 and whether it is estimated at the same level of funding as last year.

A: Provost Bjorkman replied that Finance is discussing rolling out a budget tool soon, so we expect to know by mid-March. However, we do not anticipate the level of funding cuts as at the beginning of FY 21. Dr. Postel has said the cuts have been painful and that he has no intention to cut further in the upcoming budget year. The hospital is in better shape. Additionally, the State has backed off on a possible decrease to SSI and will give us a small increase that has to be divvied up including enrollment. There are a lot of factors, but we do not expect to see the same cuts as from the 2021 budget.

Q: Chair Cochrane suggested that in looking at COGS structure and options, she would like the graduate faculty and Graduate Council to be a part of that discussion to do research and present their findings rather than being told this is what it is going to be. She inquired about a timeline.

A: Provost Bjorkman replied that she is not fan of making that decision for the Council but suggested perhaps GC take the lead by setting up a task force with graduate faculty and Council members to come up with various ideas, pros and cons, to start a broader conversation. I would welcome that.

Q: Chair Cochrane noted that at times in her college, HHS, it felt like they had not spoken up early enough and she did not want graduate faculty or Graduate Council to miss the opportunity to weigh in on this discussion.

A: Provost Bjorkman stated that she would be happy to discuss further. The timeline for a decision on COGS would be included with the other strategic initiatives going on as we move toward RCM and reinvestments, so it should be the same timeline. By fall semester we should have a better sense. Considering that we are already halfway through the spring semester, that doesn't give a huge amount of time for good conversation. But on the other hand, I don't think we can drag it out very long, because we want to make sure that you have some input on that.

She thanked Council for their time and stated that she always appreciates the invitation to come and to talk with Council. I look forward to working with all of you as we work through some of these issues and try to make things better here at the University and especially for our graduate and professional programs.

Chair Wendy Cochrane thanked Provost Bjorkman for attending and informed her that GC will have a discussion about the task force and communicate quickly with her.

Executive Reports

Research and Sponsored Programs Update

Dr. Frank Calzonetti, Vice President of Research reported:

- *RSP 100*
We are making changes to the Info Ed system to be consistent with IRB manager. We will bring Dr. Rick Francis to a future GC meeting to walk through changes and show how it is useful.
- *URFO*
We are moving quickly on the process to review proposals for these internal grants programs. One set is reviewed externally, and the other set is reviewed internally by the Research Council which expects to conclude its review at its meeting on February 26, 2021. We have received reviews of the proposals reviewed externally and should be able to send out information on the awards in a couple of weeks.
- *Budget*
Since the research budget took a hit, we cannot be as generous as we have it in the past. It is expected to be tighter this year. But anyway, so we are moving very fast on that.
- *Policies*
 - *Research Misconduct Policy I Revisions DRAFT*
We have working with Llew Gibbons on revisions to the Research Misconduct policy. It will be coming back to GC.

- *Faculty and Staff Compensation and Budgeting for Sponsored Programs 3364-70-18*
 And the compensation policy for grants, responsible programs that's been posted if you want to take a look at that and add any comments.

Information and Discussion Items -continued

Recognition of GSA Graduate Student Research Award Recipients

Chair Cochrane expressed her appreciation to the recipients and their advisors who were able to attend today's Graduate Council meeting. This is a wonderful part of Graduate Council to learn about the exciting work graduate students are doing across campus. She turned the recognition presentation to COGS Dean, Dr. Barry Scheuermann.

Dr. Barry Scheuermann stated that he had the distinct pleasure of reading all 19 applications and that he could not say enough about the kind of work that is going on in our labs and the contributions that our graduate students are making. And I think many of the graduate advisors from their support letters would echo those same sentiments. Dr. Scheuermann thanked the students for their submitting their applications and their research and their advisors for mentoring. He asked the award recipients to introduce themselves, their advisor and to say a few words about their research. He thanked all who participated. Council applauded the award recipients.

Graduate Student Association	
GRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD RECIPIENTS 2020 - 2021	
STUDENT / PROGRAM / RESEARCH TITLE	GRADUATE ADVISOR
Masuma Akter MS Mechanical Engineering <i>Manufacturing Energy Analysis and Environmental Impacts of Sheet Metal Forming: A Comparative Analysis using LCA</i>	Dr. Ala Qattawi
Daniyah Almarghalani PhD Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics <i>The Critical Role of Cofilin Signaling in Hemorrhagic Brain Injury Induced Microglial Activation and Inflammation</i>	Dr. Zahoor Shah
Sudipta Baroi PhD Molecular Medicine <i>Determining the Impact of Bone Cell Osteocytes on Gut Microbiota and Systemic Energy Utilization</i>	Dr. Beata Lecka-Czernik
Rachel Golonka PhD Molecular Medicine <i>Targeting Gut Microbiota Metabolites to Prevent Liver Cancer</i>	Dr. Matam Vijay-Kumar
Syed Hasan MS Molecular Medicine <i>Computerized Cognitive Analysis of Rats Across Ages Divergent for Exercise Capacity</i>	Dr. Lauren Koch

Presentation at Graduate Council 02.23.2021
 The University of Toledo

Executive Reports-continued

Report of the Executive Committee of the Graduate Council

On behalf of Graduate Council, Chair Dr. Wendy Cochrane, reported

- *Curriculum Tips*
Terri Hayes distributed these documents to Council that included the upcoming curriculum deadline for catalog inclusion. Please share with your college if you have not already done so.
- *Academic Dishonesty policy*
We provided feedback to committee working on the policy. Mike Dowd will be joining GC on April 20th to discuss.
- *GC 2021 Meetings– Presentations and Topics*
Provided at the end of the agenda was a list of presenters and topics at upcoming GC meetings.
- *COVID updates*
Information shared at COVID-19 Operations meeting today was positive. Our positivity rate is relatively low as is the rest of Lucas County and the State of Ohio. Slightly above state in persons who have received vaccine. There is some info that suggests age groups 65+ or 60+. When your time is available, please register.

Executive Reports-continued

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Report of the Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs and Dean of the College of Graduate Studies

Dr. Barry Scheuermann, Interim Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs and Interim Dean of the College of Graduate Studies provided the following updates:

- *COGS Annual Fellowships and Scholarship Application Deadline – March 1, 2021*
The application deadline for the University Fellowship and other scholarships available to our graduate students has been extended to March 1, 2021.
- *Graduate Dean’s Scholars and Fellows*
The application deadline for the Graduate Dean’s Scholars and Fellows program is March 19th – more information will be sent shortly. This program supports and contributes to the Colleges’ efforts to enhance inclusion and diversity in our graduate programs by sponsoring events and teaming up with other student organizations to lead discussions on issues relevant to the graduate student experience and university community.
- *Admissions and Enrollment*
Dean Scheuermann will be meeting with the Interim Vice President for Enrollment Management, Dr. David Meredith tomorrow. On the top of the agenda will be implementation of new admissions program, GradCAS, EngineeringCAS and BusinessCAS. Any questions? Although I have not yet had conversations with Dr. Meredith nor the Provost about this, I had heard today that implementation may possibly be delayed. Hopefully, we will have more information to share on this development for the associate deans this week.
- *Graduate Catalog 2021-2022*
Dean Scheuermann and Lisa Taylor and will be coordinating revisions to the Graduate Catalog and the Graduate Student Handbook. Her contact information will be provided to the Associate Deans during our meeting February 25, but if you have suggested changes to the Graduate Student handbook, please email with your comments.
- *Responsible Conduct in Research Workshop*
COGS has partnered with the Office of Research to offer a Responsible Conduct in Research workshop, with the first session to be held on March 29 and the second session on April 3rd. Associate Deans should be made aware of students who need and/or are interested in RCR training.

Report of the Graduate Student Association

Ms. Brittany Jones, President of the Graduate Student Association (GSA) reported:

- *Midwest Graduate Research Symposium (MGRS)*
Planning and recruitment for the MGRS Steering Committee began last week and the abstract acceptance period has opened, with a few submissions already received. We will soon send out recruitment emails for MGRS judges. Coordinator and volunteer applications are open for interested students.
- *Dean’s Fellows and Scholars Roundtables*
The first of Dean’s Fellows and Scholars Roundtables, hosted by GSA
“Cultivating a Positive Relationship with your PI” - March 23, 2021 from 6:30 -8:00 pm
Has a reported total of 13 participating Deans on the planned panel.

More details will be confirmed surrounding the second roundtable, “*Imposter Syndrome*” is set to take place sometime during the week of April 19th.

- *GSA General Assembly Meeting February 17, 2021*
 Other activity involved hosting our monthly GSA meeting on February 17, 2021, where Career Services presented about what they offer to graduate students for their education needs, in addition to participation in weekly meetings, including the President’s Reinvestment Committees and the past Board of Trustees’ February meeting. Ms. Jones indicated that she inquired about CARES funds with the Provost and is waiting to hear back.
- *Planning for 2021-2022*
 Moving forward, GSA is planning for next school year, particularly programming and funding for the upcoming Fall semester. Nominations for GSA E-Board positions will take place next month, with elections to be held in April. COGS and GSA are working together on these goals and priorities.

Standing Committee Reports

Report of the Curriculum Committee

On behalf of the GC Curriculum Committee, Dr. Tim Mueser, chair, reviewed the committee’s report (see full report attached). All proposals were approved by the committee. Graduate Council unanimously approved the proposals recommended by the GCCC. See notes and discussion below and full attached report.

112	CCR	AR	Economics	Econometrics Models And Methods I	ECON 4810	course change request
113	CCR	AR	Geography and Planning	Digital Image Analysis	GEPL 4500	course change request
114	NCP	HH	School of Exercise and Rehabilitation Sciences	Evidence Based Practice	PHYT 5130	new course proposal

#112 & #113 we do not act on undergraduate courses, but the graduate level is flagged if they are co-listed. These changes were UG, and we do not have authority over these. The GCCC would like GC to tell me as chair to approve and send on its way so we don’t hold up for UG approval process/actions.

CIM is complicated in way it is co-listing. UG comments and prerequisites appear to be overriding the graduate co-list of these courses. This has resulted in graduate course portion also having undergraduate prerequisites. And there's no way to let the database know there's actually two levels, which is unfortunate. We're trying to get the proper phrasing so that the system does not hold up registration and mandate over-rides. Presently, you have to go in at

These are more technical complications, Dr. Mueser requested GC authority to approve with the understanding and explanation provided.

Dr. Amy Thompson, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, thanked Dr. Mueser for working with the Provost’s Office to resolve these issue with CIM, a relatively new system at UToledo. This is more of a software issue that thus we are trying to do some coding to resolve and work through this co-listing issue.

Dr. Mueser pointed out that the current catalog to be published you will see a lot of graduate courses with undergraduate prerequisites. It does not look good, but we are trying to fix this.

The GCCC also requests that minimum grades for Graduate Classes be entered as "C" based on the following passage in the Graduate Handbook. Currently in CIM/Banner they default to D-

Academic Standards: A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (four-point grading system) in graduate coursework is required for graduation. Graduate students whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.0 during any semester will be placed on academic probation. Depending on the program, a full-time student on academic probation will have one or at most two semesters (excluding summers) to meet the cumulative GPA standard. A student failing to meet the standard will be subject to dismissal. A part-time student on academic probation will be required to meet the GPA standard after 12 additional credit hours of graduate coursework. A grade of C (2.0) is the minimum passing grade for graduate courses. Therefore, any graduate course in which a grade below "C" or grade of "U" was earned will not be permitted on the Plan of Study. Grades of below "C" will continue to be counted in calculating the cumulative grade point average. Individual programs may offer a specific number of credit hours with earned grades of C or below to be repeated one time. Colleges are permitted to establish individual program course retake standards. However, such standards shall not exceed two courses up to a maximum of 12 credit hours.

Both the original and repeated grades will appear on the transcript and be calculated into the cumulative GPA. Colleges/departments/degree programs may enact additional coursework grade requirements beyond the minimum standard established here by the Graduate Faculty.

[Barring no questions or comments, Chair Cochrane stated that Dr. Mueser has GC approval to make to make changes by unanimous consent.]

Report of the Membership Committee

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Taskforce on COGS structures/options

Chair Cochrane opened up for discussion the Provost's suggestion to create taskforce to look at configurations for a College of Graduate Studies. It is better to be proactive and have some ideas rather than responding to what someone has put together.

We can solicit volunteers on and off GC so that there is adequate representation for the unique needs for HSC students and MC. COGS Dean, Barry Scheuermann indicated that his thoughts were expressed in the questions asked.

Dr. David Giovannucci suggested that the Huron Consulting firm should have some of the information needed since they have worked with a number of institutions and could share some examples of the different graduate structures and options for schools who have transitioned to RCM budget model. The Provost could request that information.

Chair Cochrane responded that she Dr. Giovannucci would request that information during her regularly scheduled meeting with the Provost on February 24th.

Chair Cochrane solicited volunteers to serve on the taskforce:

Brian Ashburner
Samir Hefzy
Barry Scheuermann
Beth Schlemper

Chair Cochrane will share information and revisit at next meeting including getting individuals to be a part of the taskforce, so that we can be proactive as opposed to reactive.

Dean Scheuermann noted that an important question pertaining to graduate programs is whether you are looking at from research or professional programs view, because that has become an issue at other universities when moving toward our model. If you have a lot of tuition paying students and a relatively small number of graduate assistant ships, that's a very lopsided picture financially, compared to having the other kind of distribution. The taskforce may want to look at some of those other kinds of universities and how they've partition note, these kinds of areas in particular.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Council adjourned at 1:53 pm.