

**Graduate Council Minutes
September 23, 2014
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
Main Campus, Student Union, Room 2582**

Present: Peter Andreana, Ainsworth Bailey, Debra Boardley, Joseph Dake, Michael Dowd, Mary Ellen Edwards, Ali Fatemi, Brian Fink, Rodney Gabel, April Gardner, Hans Gottgens, GSA-Josef Vrtiska, Kay Grothaus, Dwight Haase, Susanna Hapgood, Mohamed Samir Hefzy, David Jex, Richard Johnson, Junghwan Kim, Jon Kirchhoff, Patricia Komuniecki, Anand Kunnathur, Marcia McInerney, William Messer, Holly Monsos, Ron Opp, Kelly Phillips, Susan Pocotte, Sonmez Sahutoglu, Youssef Sari, Constance Schall, Barry Scheuermann, Joseph Schmidt, Barbara Schneider, Rebecca Schneider, Diana Shvydka, Susan Sochacki, Pamela Stover, Viranga Tillekeratne, Jerry Van Hoy, Lois Ventura, Kandace Williams.

Excused: Brian Ashburner, David Giovannucci, Margaret Hopkins, Virginia Keil.

Absent: Cynthia Smas.

Guests: Interim President Nagi Naganathan, Dr. John Plenefisch.

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Approval of Minutes

The meeting was called to order and the roll called. The Minutes of the September 9, 2014 meeting were approved.

Executive Reports

Report of the Executive Committee of the Graduate Council

Dr. Ron Opp, Graduate Council (GC) Chair, stated that the guest speaker today is Interim President Nagi Naganathan and that time will be permitted for questions. Interim Provost John Barrett will be the guest speaker at the October 7, 2014 GC meeting and Chair Opp asked that questions for the Interim Provost be directed to him or Dr. Rebecca Schneider. He also requested that suggestions for any additional speakers or discussion topics for GC meetings be directed to him or Dr. Schneider. Some suggestions for speakers and/or topics are: Dr. Alana Malik (Assessment), Ms. Heather Huntley (Program Review), as well as curriculum tracking system, Kuali Coeus, graduate enrollment, and trends in graduate education across the country. He thanked Dr. William Messer for his assistance with Kuali Coeus, The University of Toledo's electronic IRB application system. Chair Opp commended Dean Komuniecki and the College of Graduate Studies (COGS) staff for their implementation assistance with the curricular tracking system. The Graduate Council Executive Committee (GCEC) discussed curricular proposals, program review changes, and some general summer business concerns. Dr. Mark Templin and the ad hoc Constitution and Bylaws Committee will be briefed so that any needed changes to the Bylaws may be addressed.

Report of the Graduate Student Association (GSA)

Joseph Vrtiska, Vice President of GSA, reported that at the first GSA meeting this year there were 16 representatives (out of 24) and over 100 attendees present. The GSA budget was approved. The newly revised GSA bylaws were introduced at the meeting and will be voted upon at the Wednesday, October 22 meeting. The Midwest Graduate Research Symposium (MGRS) will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2015 and Dr. Michael Rees from UT has been extended an invitation to be the guest speaker. Over 65 universities will be invited and the first batch of invitations will be sent out October 2, 2014 with a follow up in early spring. Ms. Alcy Barakat, the GSA Health Science Secretary, is the Judges Coordinator this year. Although only 18 judges were involved in MGRS last year, the GSA is hoping to have 25-30 judges this year and so the GSA invites faculty to volunteer. Two GSA representatives, who are appointed to the College of Education, are actually in the College of Social Justice and Human Services. The two spots will be opened up to students in the College of Education; however, if applications are not received from the College of Education, the two students currently appointed will remain in those positions. The GSA/SBA (Student Bar Association) Homecoming tailgate will occur on Saturday, October 25 in the parking lot of the College of Law. The Law School Symposium entitled "From Scalpel to Gavel" will occur on October 10 providing CNE for nurses and CLE for lawyers. The College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics requested \$2,500 from the GSA to fund a new Industry Seminar series hosted by the Biological Sciences department; the GSA approved \$700. Last year the GSA provided travel reimbursement monies totaling \$40,000 for conferences and symposia. This year the GSA will provide \$300 to each active member and \$100 to each inactive member for travel reimbursement. (Students must attend at least two GSA meetings a year to be considered an active member.) Funding will be limited to five students for any one conference—on a first come, first serve basis—with priority given to presenters. The GSA is asking that GC encourage students to follow the reimbursement process directions on the GSA website for better efficiency. A suggestion was made by a GC member to consider increasing the award to \$500 for active members. Finally, the GSA Research Award application timeline will be moved to fall semester with an application deadline of November 21, 2014; the award winners will be notified by the end of fall term and the funds must be spent by June 12, 2015. A total of \$10,000 has been set aside for this award. For more information, please refer to the COGS website/GSA page. A GC member suggested that a budget presentation be made to GC so that the GC could provide additional respect on expenditures.

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

Dean Komuniecki provided the following updates:

o *Fall 2014 Enrollment*

The preliminary 15th day (census) report indicated that overall graduate enrollment was 4,536 students—down by 54 students (-1.18%) from Fall 2013. Dr. Komuniecki was pleased to note the double digit headcount increases in the College of Business and Innovation (+13.55%, 53 students) and the Judith Herb College of Education (+13.58%, 55 students). However, three other colleges showed double digit decreases, including Law (-15.79%, 57 students), Nursing (-13.50%, 42 students) and Languages, Literature and Social Sciences (-10.78%, 28 students). The decreases in headcount resulted in an overall decrease in graduate FTE as well (-2.04%). Undergraduate (UG) enrollment was also down slightly (-0.64%) and UG FTE was down -1.87%. Thus, UT will be reporting a -0.19% overall decrease to the OBR. The FY15 budget had planned for flat enrollment, so this observed decrease will impact the overall budget.

o *State and National Meetings*

Dean Komuniecki provided the GC with an update of her travel schedule. She will be serving as the Chair of the Ohio Board Regents Advisory Committee on Graduate Studies (RACGS). This group of USO Graduate Deans is responsible for approving all new graduate degree programs at the 14 public universities in the State of Ohio offering Master's and Doctoral degrees. RACGS meets bimonthly on the fourth Friday of the month and Dean Komuniecki will be in Columbus this Friday. Next week RACGS is having a two-day retreat to review the existing guidelines and bylaws for the OBR approval of new programs and existing programs modified by 50% or more in content, delivery modality, or site. There will also be an opportunity to discuss more global issues facing graduate education, including SSI formula changes, international programs, graduate "specializations/tracks/concentrations", graduate faculty status, and tracking of graduate student success. Dean Komuniecki will brief GC on items of importance that arise from that retreat. She will brief Council on the upcoming national Professional Science Master's Association (NPSMA) and Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) meetings at the next GC meeting.

Information and Discussion Items

Discussion with Interim President Nagi Naganathan, Ph.D.

Chair Opp welcomed and introduced Dr. Nagi Naganathan, Interim President of The University of Toledo (UT), who extended his gratitude for the invitation. President Naganathan stated that he has been in several conversations with Dean Komuniecki, Dr. William Messer and others regarding graduate education and research. During the question and answer session, President Naganathan addressed a question pertaining to the current assessment of and vision for research and scholarly activity at UT. He stated that internal and external factors affect research and suggested that each college should come up with its own mechanism as one size does not fit all. President Naganathan responded to a question about whether graduate education fits in the strategic initiatives that he is planning to address this academic year. He stated that UT cannot afford to sit back even one year and that at the August senior leadership retreat (including Vice Presidents, Deans, etc.) active group discussions identified major initiatives and goals to pursue. Research and scholarship were among the major initiatives. Some topics included college specific activities, a strategic faculty hiring plan as well as a campus master plan (the parking plan for the campus needs to be addressed now). Other topics included student enrollment, recruitment, and retention. President Naganathan will be visiting every academic college this fall semester. He also feels that developing a new model that supports graduate research and graduate education is very important. Since President Naganathan has served UT as a faculty member, department chair, and college dean, he was asked to share his perspective on the roles of chairs and deans in the current administration and to address the balance between local (department and college) and central (provost and president) responsibilities of the administration. President Naganathan stated that since he has served in those roles, he has an understanding of the many pressures facing chairs and deans. He understands the delicate balance of operational realities with aspirational goals. He suggested identifying new ways to meet college deliverables while meeting reasonable expectations from the various stakeholders. He also stressed the importance of becoming entrepreneurial in seeking funding opportunities. Each college will need to decide what works best for its needs. Expenses for each college need to be ascertained, and deans/chairs have the responsibilities of creating funding opportunities. There are many avenues in which to accomplish this. A GC member inquired about the possibility of College Deans providing the department chairs with decision making abilities. President Naganathan stated that not every dean/chair would be able respond the same way. The department chair and/or faculty will not be part of the solution unless there are benefits at each level. Faculty members should also believe they can be part of the solution and that way we can all walk away with something. Building such a culture will take time and it is very important. He emphasized the importance of conversations with academic institutions and

learning from each other. When he was the dean of engineering, he and his chairs visited other universities and identified practices that they wanted to utilize and then implement.

Chair Opp stated that the graduate students and faculty were encouraged by this year’s budget which limited the tuition increases to 1%. However, UT ranks among those USO institutions in Ohio with the highest out-of-pocket costs for graduate students. Given the desire to reduce student debt and the time to degree completion and increase retention, President Naganathan was asked about any possible upcoming discussions regarding graduate student stipends, health insurance costs, and fees. He indicated that although he has not yet been involved in any focused conversation on this topic, he does understand the complexities of the stipend and tuition budget for graduate assistants. Further, the tuition rate affects the fee-paying graduate students as well so we need to be mindful of the costs. Dean Komuniecki added that UT has the highest tuition rate as compared to other USO institutions. The Dean also noted that she would like to see a policy change regarding UT graduate students being considered full time at 9 hours rather than the current 12 hour rule. President Naganathan agreed that this will be an important topic this year. He responded to a hiring plan inquiry by stating that in the next week or so, Interim Provost John Barrett will be speaking to the deans on this topic and it will include concerns about the number of retirements/losing talent, the hires of lecturers and tenure track faculty, and the utilization of visiting and part-time faculty. President Naganathan looks forward to working with Interim Provost John Barrett on many of the items discussed at this meeting.

Standing Committee Reports

Constitution and Bylaws Committee

None.

Curriculum Committee

The following proposals were sent to the GCCC for review and are recommended by the GCCC for approval by Graduate Council. The GC unanimously approved this curriculum:

New Program Proposal (Pipeline)

College	Department	Program	Summary of change
MD	Public Health and Preventive Medicine	BS Public Health Lourdes University and NOCPH MPH 3+2 Degree Program	Students enrolled in this 3+2 program who will complete their MPH at the University of Toledo take 3 MPH courses for 9 credits at the University of Toledo (PUBH 6000, PUBH 6010, and PUBH 6640) that also count as credit towards the completion of the BS at Lourdes University. Students must apply and be accepted to the program in their junior year and meet MPH admission requirements. Does not alter requirements or curriculum of UT's MPH program.

New Course Proposals

College	Department	Course Name	Course Number	Change in course
MD	Biochemistry and Cancer Biology	Scientific Communication Skills and Career Goals	CABP 6250	Designed to improve scientific communication skills for Physician-Scientist trainees needed to be successful in their career related goals (Masters level students).
MD	Biochemistry and Cancer Biology	Scientific Communication Skills and Career Goals	CABP 8250	Same as above for Doctoral level students.
MD	Public Health and Preventive Medicine	Interdisciplinary Crisis Management for Medical and Public Health Professionals	PUBH 6560	Introduction to principles of epidemiology and disaster medicine in an all-hazards framework, provide essential skills to enable functioning in the event of a catastrophe. Intended for interdisciplinary health-care students in a variety of programs.
MD	Public Health and Preventive Medicine	Interdisciplinary Crisis Management for Medical and Public Health Professionals	PUBH 8560	Same as above for Doctoral level students.

Existing Course Modifications

College	Department	Course Name	Course Number	Change in course
NU	Health Promotion, Outcomes, Systems, Policy	Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical I: Primary Care of Adolescents and Adults	NURS 7210	Change in pre-requisites/co-requisites: drop admission to BSN-DNP program, NURS 7680, and NURS 7050. Other pre-requisites remain unchanged, NURS 7690 co-requisite can also be a pre-requisite.
NU	Health Promotion, Outcomes, Systems, Policy	Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical II: Primary Care of Adolescents and Adults	NURS 7220	Change in pre-requisites, from NURS 7210 and NURS 7690 to NURS 7210 only.
NU	Health Promotion, Outcomes, Systems, Policy	Ethical Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice	NURS 7410	Change in pre-requisites/co-requisites: drop NURS 7400, move NURS 7000 (Orientation) from pre- to co-requisite. Admission to BSN-DNP as pre-requisite remains unchanged.
NU	Health Promotion, Outcomes, Systems, Policy	Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics	NURS 7690	Change in pre-requisites/co-requisites: from none to NURS 7680 (Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology).

NU	Heath Promotion, Outcomes, Systems, Policy	Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Clinical I: Care of Children and Concepts of Wellness	NURS 7810	Change in pre-requisites/co-requisites: drop admission to BSN-DNP program, NURS 7680, and NURS 7050. Other pre-requisites remain unchanged; NURS 7690 co-requisite can also be a pre-requisite.
NU	Heath Promotion, Outcomes, Systems, Policy	Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Clinical II: Care of Children and Concepts of Wellness	NURS 7820	Change in pre-requisites, from NURS 7810 and NURS 7690 to NURS 7810 only.

Membership Committee

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Council adjourned at 1:58 p.m.