

**Graduate Council Minutes
November 18, 2008**

Present: Lawrence Anderson, Barbaranne Benjamin, Dwayne Demedio, Max Funk, Hans Gottgens, Scott Heckathorn, Mohamed Hefzy, Ruth Hottell, Barbara Kopp Miller, Eric Longsdorf, Sara Lundquist, Anastasia Mirzoyants (GSA), Gary Moore, Azadeh Parvin, Kelly Phillips, Susan Pocotte, Benjamin Pryor, Ram Rachamadugu, Patricia Relue, Kathleen Salyers, Barbara Schneider, Dianne Smolen, Mark Templin, Amy Thompson, Frederick Williams

Absent: John Gaboury, Dong Shik-Kim, Eric Longsdorf, Randall Ruch, James Trempe

Excused: Jamie Barlowe, Michael Bisesi, Jeanne Funk, Laurie Dinnebeil, Wayne Hoss, Mylo Jennings, Anand Kunnathur, Sakui Malakpa, Dorothea Sawicki, Krishna Shenai, Alice Skeens, Herman Von Grafenstein

Guest: Eva Klein

Report of Executive Committee of the Graduate Council and the Dean of the College of Graduate Studies

Dr. Relue stated the report of the Executive Committee is rolled into the enumerated items under Information and Discussion Items below.

Information and Discussion Items

Status Update on Candidate Search for Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs and Dean of the College of Graduate Studies

Dr. Hottell reported the committee had just met this morning and brought forward three very strong candidates who would all be excellent advocates for graduate education in the position: Charlene Czerniak, Patricia Komuniecki, and Nick Piazza. The committee reviewed materials, met with the candidates, spoke with references and generated a list of strengths and weaknesses for each candidate. She stated there was still an opportunity for those interested to submit their feedback on the candidates to the search committee chair, Dr. Johnnie Early. The committee will meet with the Provosts this Friday, November 21st; the Provosts will have access to all of evaluation materials. In response to concerns that unranked lists can be troublesome, she suggested that evaluating strengths and weaknesses can be compelling, particularly when assessing in-house candidates as weaknesses are usually known.

Dr. Relue, also a search committee member, added that the new person is expected to be in the position as of January 1, 2009. The Dean/V Provost will interact with GC extensively regarding items of interest to this body, and thus, we should express our most immediate concerns right away.

The Council generated a list of topics at the forefront of graduate education which should be brought to the attention of the new Dean (below). Dr. Hottell reminded Council that some of these topics were touched upon in the candidates' PowerPoint presentations.

- Graduate Program Review Committee needs to be staffed for program review; graduate program review has not occurred for several years on the main campus
- Assistantship budget and recruiting ideas
 - Stipends must be competitive
 - Tuition waivers should be revisited for use by some programs
- Admissions process should be revamped: preferably on-line, paperless, and streamlined

- Website needs significant work
- Staff support
- Better opportunities for graduate student development (workshops, travel funding)
- Outcomes assessment and long term placement tracking of graduate students needed
- Allocation of resources to interdisciplinary programs, i.e. GAs are allocated by department, but MLS not housed in a particular department
- International collaborative research and student exchange
- International student recruitment has been hampered in part due to homeland security/VISA issues.
- Funding models (i.e. graduated stipend levels) for masters and doctoral students will be different, so there is a need to position ourselves to maximize use of these funds.

Dr. Kopp Miller added the Graduate Executive Committee is still meeting, so this still needs to be formally addressed.

Update from Bylaws Workgroup

Dr. Max Funk reported that the workgroup has successfully completed its mission of writing bylaws for the Graduate Council. He expects a draft to be presented to the GCEC in the near future to be discussed at the next Graduate Council meeting.

Standing Committee Reports

Report of the Membership Committee

Dr. Hefzy reported that the committee reviewed 33 applications: 1 tabled for more information; 18 recommended Full; 4 recommended Associate I; 3 recommended Adjunct; and 7 recommended Special.

Report of the Curriculum Committee

Dr. Anderson reported there are some proposals coming up but not an overwhelming amount. He stated he was in the process of revamping the curriculum procedures for clarity in the paperwork process and visibility on the on the web. He will import the format for curriculum tracking from the Arts and Sciences web page which provides a full listing of proposals with a place for committee status and date for Graduate Council review. The Provost's office is in the process of redesigning the forms which date back to semester conversion. However, the current forms have been updated electronically to allow for editing by the submitter up until the next authority approves. The authority of the form itself will be divested from the Provost's office and will be moved to the faculty bodies that approve, namely Faculty Senate and Graduate Council. There will eventually be long-term outcomes assessment, which traditionally has only been done at the undergraduate level.

In response to a question concerning how dual undergraduate and graduate listings might affect the Ph.D. level, Dr. Relue stated the Council passed a resolution last year related to cross listing in that an undergraduate course cannot be cross-listed at the Ph.D. level; courses can have 4000 level undergraduate/MS or MS/PhD cross-lists, but not across all three levels.

Organizational Reports

Report of the Graduate Student Association

Ms. Anastasia Mirzoyants, President of the Graduate Student Association (GSA), reported its major efforts are focused on the reorganization of GSA and Council of Graduate Students (CGS). Both organizations are involved in active communication while defining the model, which will allow the interests of graduate students from both campuses to be presented equally and fairly.

The process is scheduled to be finalized by the end of the fall semester 2008; spring semester 2009 is planned to be the start of the new working model for GSA. The next GSA meeting was slated for November 20th from 3 – 4:30 p.m., in Student Union room 3016.

At this meeting, members will discuss a new fundraising and promotional opportunity for the organization: GSA is invited to participate in the shooting of an episode of Game Show Grill, a local Toledo game program. Each episode is shot on Saturday evening and broadcasted live on local radio. The following Monday and Thursday, the episode is also broadcasted on the local TV channel 69 and is also added to YouTube. GSA hosted a Halloween celebration on October 30th which was relatively successful. The next social event planned by the organization is Christmas Masquerade on December 19th.

Additional Discussion Item: Special Guest

Consultant Eva Klein of Eva Klein & Associates: Discussion of UT Economic Development Strategy and Science and Technology Corridor Plan, Ideas for an Engaged University

This discussion was moved out of order for scheduling accommodations for visiting consultant.

Dr. Frank Calzonetti introduced Ms. Eva Klein. Ms. Klein who was hired by the University to provide guidance as it redesigns its education strategy in terms of engagement and its role in Northwest Ohio. It is economic development activity in the broadest sense. It is critical the University be committed to Northwest Ohio and emerge in a leadership role. The charge is centered on economic development and what universities can do to transform this economy and move forward. Ms. Klein brings tremendous experience working with universities across the country. She has a great track record and an expansive educational background including three masters' degrees. She has already met with a number of people on campus, including the BOT and the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate.

Ms. Klein thanked Council for engaging in a discussion on educational strategy. She stated her work is on the strategy of education and advising universities why they need to transform themselves into universities of the twenty-first century while continuing to honor what universities have done well. Universities must create a mix of new ways of influencing and serving the society we are in. There is a transformation from industrialized to knowledge-based economies as evidenced by the tremendous decline in manufacturing jobs. You must create wealth to support universities, symphonies, and life of the mind for societies. A wealth of innovation, knowledge, and well-educated human capital will make a regional successful. A university has to be a central player in that task.

An engaged university is interactive with its constituents, and there is a need to find additional ways to benefit society rapidly. She suggested bringing an educational sequence including service learning models that create active learning models relative to what is happening in disciplines and society. She asked whether the Ph.D. preparation and culture should become more a mix of theory and practice. A university needs to define its vision of education in 2030 and 2040. She emphasized the necessity of multiple languages as it is time to rethink about the mono-linguistic culture we have. It is unacceptable to speak one language in this small world.

Dr. Kopp Miller agreed that the environment is conducive to a newer learning style particularly in the field of gerontology as baby boomers are becoming older. Ms. Klein stated there needs to be a greater focus on mid-career people and older learners, with programs designed for adults. That's why the University of Phoenix is making millions of dollars. Too many universities have not made it a major focus.

There was discussion on the value in promoting the humanities. As a culture, there is too much information coming at us, and we are losing our ability to tell what is genuine. We have to make this something people want. Universities should think in terms of integration, not separate sides. Human issues and quality of life are important. Ms. Klein replied that having a humanities background, she understands the need to revise the role of the humanities and to promote it in a way that enhances quality of life. There has to be cultural quality where people of intellect want to be. We will have a vibrant city of culture. Dr. Demedio stated the primary function of a university is to educate people so they are not so narrow in scope that they are not “educated.” A University is more than a job-prepping institution. The ability to think depends on the quality of the experience.

There was discussion on the educational mission of the university and its role with start-up companies. Ms. Klein stated that the discussion taking place for years within universities in the U.S. and Europe was limited to research parks and incubators; the discussion was initially centered on real estate instead of knowledge assets, but has broadened to intellectual property and technology transfer. The hard sciences and life sciences are going to be at the core of that engine, generating economic activity that allows the arts side to thrive. Ms. Klein stated higher education will require people to have an occupation but acquire a broad education in the process.

New Business

Announcement

Dr. Hottell announced there would be a memorial service this Friday for Sandy Bulmahn who passed away in Denver last Friday. Details are in the notice in the “Toledo Blade”. She was the wife of Dr. Heinz Bulmahn, who was Dean of Graduate Studies for many years.

Old Business

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Council adjourned at 2:09 p.m.