

**Graduate Council Minutes  
March 23, 2010**

Present: Lawrence Anderson, Jamie Barlowe, Karen Bjorkman, Wendy Cochrane, Michael Dowd, Brian Fink, David Giovannucci, Scott Heckathorn, Wayne Hoss, Ruth Hottell, Patricia Komuniecki, Joel Lipman, Joseph Margiotta, Geoffrey Martin, Sheryl Milz, Gary Moore, Azadeh P Arvin, Susan Pocotte, Thihal Ponnaiyan (GSA), Ram Rachamadugu, Patricia Relue, Kathleen Salyers, Dorothea Sawicki, Barbara Schneider, Robert Sullivan, Mark Templin, Amy Thompson, Frederick Williams

Absent: Dwayne Demedio, John Gaboury, Hans Gottgens, Dong-Shik Kim, Eric Longsdorf, Benjamin Pryor, Krishna Shenai

Excused: Barbaranne Benjamin, Frank Calzonetti, Amira Gohara, Mohamed Hefzy, Richard Komuniecki, Anand Kunnathur, Sakui Malakpa, Kelly Phillips, Randall Ruch, Dianne Smolen, Herman von Grafenstein

Guests: Constance Shriner

***Call to Order and Roll and Approval of Minutes***

The Minutes of the February 23, 2010, meetings were approved.

***Report of the Executive Committee of the Graduate Council and the Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs and Dean of the College of Graduate Studies***

Report of the Executive Committee of the Graduate Council

On behalf of the Graduate Council Executive Committee (GCEC) Dr. Pocotte reported that the colleges will soon hold their elections for Graduate Faculty representation to Graduate Council. Review of the Graduate Council membership roster for expiration of terms has been performed by Ms. Terri Hayes. Notices to the College Deans, Associate Deans or other appropriate persons regarding elections have been sent. Full, Associate I and Associate II graduate faculty may vote for their Graduate Council representatives. Full Graduate Faculty membership is required to serve on the Graduate Council. The election results are requested by early April so that we may invite the new members to the May 4, 2010, Graduate Council meeting. Per the Constitution of the Graduate Faculty, the members of the Graduate Council should be staggered such that 1/3 renewal each year. We will be looking at the current staggering per College.

Elections for Graduate Council Executive Committee Officers will be held at the May 4th Graduate Council meeting. An ad hoc elections committee of Dr. Templin and Dr. Dowd has been formed by the GCEC. Next year Dr. Templin becomes Chair of GC. We will elect a new Vice Chair and three At Large members. Per the Bylaws of the Graduate Council, at least two of the five officers must be faculty reporting to HSC Provost and at least two of the five officers must be faculty reporting to the MC Provost. As Past Chair, Dr. Pocotte will serve on next year's GCEC. We will need at least one more each of HSC and MC faculty officers.

With regard to the Graduate Faculty Membership renewal application process, Ms. Terri Hayes has sent letters to the MC Graduate Faculty whose memberships expire this academic year. She is coordinating with Ms. Michelle Arbogast the HSC Graduate Faculty who need to renew membership. A newly revised application form was posted on the COGS web site this week. All HSC and MC faculty will now submit the application form to Ms. Terri Hayes for processing. She coordinates with the GCEC and the Graduate Membership Committee for initiating review of the applications. Please remind your constituents that the deadline for submission is April 5, 2010. It is very important to not lose membership status and be unable to teach or mentor graduate students.

Dr. Pocotte reported on a recent meeting she attended with the Provosts and the President on March 18, 2010. As Chair of the Graduate Council, Dr. Pocotte attends monthly meetings with the two Provosts and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Timely information is shared. Items pertaining to the Graduate Council are brought to the GCEC and in turn to the GC. Dr. Jacobs attended the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. He specifically wanted to discuss the BOT Resolution No. 10-01-01 that was passed at the January 25, 2010, BOT meeting.

The resolution reads as follows:

**Approved by Board of Trustees at its January 25, 2010, meeting**

**RESOLUTION NO. 10-01-01**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
CHARGE TO PRESIDENT JACOBS**

WHEREAS, The University of Toledo desires to continue to grow in our commitment to excellence, service and quality; and

WHEREAS, a revolution in higher education is underway and new roles are being assigned to universities; and

WHEREAS, The University of Toledo is re-visiting or re-calibrating its Strategic Plan called *Directions 2007* to create a new document called *Directions 2010*; and

WHEREAS, The University of Toledo has begun a comprehensive Self Study in preparation for an accreditation visit from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC); and

WHEREAS, The University of Toledo, like other public universities, faces unprecedented fiscal uncertainties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

that The University of Toledo Board of Trustees charges the President to work, as appropriate, with administrators, faculty and staff to accelerate fundamental, transformational and sustainable change to elevate the stature of undergraduate and non-professional graduate programs during fiscal years 2010-12 to create a vibrant institution thriving into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Dr. Jacobs wanted suggestions as to how to work with faculty to implement the BOT resolution. Dr. Pocotte said she questioned the focus of the phrase “non-professional graduate programs”. He was not certain as to the intention of that phrase. It had been inserted after he had been given feedback on draft versions in which the phrase was omitted. He recalled that the BOT had been focused on the core competencies of UT educational programs.

Specific plans of action were not made on March 18<sup>th</sup>. From the Graduate perspective, Dr. Pocotte offered that the Graduate Council would be one major body appropriate to coordinate initiatives for implementing this resolution. The resolution is broad in scope. Numerous initiatives are underway across the University that relate to this resolution. For example, Strategic Planning recalibration of Graduate Goals, program assessment to inform improvement changes, development of new graduate programs, and so on. The President raised the possibility that better implementation of the many good ideas that have already been proposed, would be helpful to execution of this resolution.

The work of the Goal 2 workgroup is rapidly progressing. As you recall from previous announcements, the University Strategic Planning Recalibration Committee is co-chaired by Dr. Jamie Barlow and Mr. Chuck Lehnert. Currently around 95 people are involved. The membership on the Goal 2 Workgroup includes Graduate Student and Faculty representation from all Graduate Colleges. A second draft of the group's work will be presented at the March 26, 2010, meeting of the Strategic Planning Meeting.

Graduate Faculty might wish to have the opportunity to respond to a draft of the Strategic plan. Dr. Pocotte suggested that sometime after March 26th, but before April Full Strategic Plan meeting, the Graduate Council. It is important to President Jacobs, Dr. Barlowe, and Mr. Lehnert, that as many people as possible participate in this process. The President wishes to have a 1000 people participate before this is completed.

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

Dr. Komuniecki gave a brief report given that there are two guest presentations today.

- *Budget Update*

The COGS budget hearing was held about 10 days ago, just before spring break. We proposed both 5% increase and decrease scenarios, and are hopeful that we will not take a decrease for FY11, but have not yet had any definite feedback from Mr. Scott Scarborough's office. That said, we did get the authorization to release 80% of the FY10 stipend and tuition scholarship budgets to the colleges now. Within the next week additional budget information will be sent out to colleges on additional allocations for FY11 for both of those budgets. COGS has been asked to review the historical allocations to ensure that funding is allocated to support strategic directions.

- *Program Review*

The GC program review committee, chaired by Dr. Ruth Hottell, has had its first meeting and the charge has been discussed. Dr. Komuniecki will provide additional information to the GC at its next meeting, but wanted to indicate that the plan will be to review the doctoral programs first. Briefly, the process will begin this spring by working with IR to send out program profile forms completed with quantitative information for each doctoral program to the colleges. Over the summer, the information will be vetted by the departments and colleges and returned to COGS. In fall 2010, the Graduate Council Program Review Committee and COGS will review the submitted information (additional meetings may be held with colleges) and we hope to forward the report to the Provosts by spring 2011.

- *Announcements/Reminders*

The call for COGS Scholarships and Fellowships, including the GOAP Award, has been posted on the COGS website (current students) for a month and we have extended the deadline to March 31st to ensure that students have had enough time to prepare applications. Dr. Komuniecki urged Council members to get the information out to students and consider nominating a deserving graduate student.

Chancellor Fingerhut has announced the new Vice Chancellor for Academic Innovation and System Integration, Dr. John Brighton, who has replaced Dr. Barbara Gelman-Danley. Dr. Brighton has held a number of leadership positions including Vice President and Provost at Penn State, Assistant Director of Engineering at NSF (2003-05), Vice President for Research and Economic Development at Iowa State (2005-08), as well as consultancy and advisory positions at a number of universities, including OSU.

#### *Information and Discussion Items*

##### **UT Higher Learning Commission (HLC): Accreditation and the Self Study Process**

Dr. Thea Sawicki, Professor and Associate Dean for Health Science Graduate Programs and Faculty Co-Chair of the UT Self Study Steering Committee provided an overview of the UT Higher Learning Commission Accreditation and the process of self-study as UT prepares for its accreditation site visit in February 2012. Dr. Sawicki briefly described each slide in her PowerPoint presentation which provided pertinent background on the NCA and the HLC, UT's self-study timeline, the membership and emphasis of

each of the five criterion teams. Dr. Sawicki's PowerPoint presentation is available on the Graduate Council website at <http://www.utoledo.edu/graduate/facultystaff/gradcouncil/index.html>. To follow the progress of the self-study, visit <http://www.utoledo.edu/campus/about/accreditation/index.html> or send email to [UTSelfStudy@utoledo.edu](mailto:UTSelfStudy@utoledo.edu).

Dr. Constance Shriner, Associate Professor, Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Curriculum Evaluation and HLC Accreditation Criterion 3 Team Leader, presented a PowerPoint presentation titled "A Shifting Paradigm: Interpreting HLC Criterion 3". She explained the team's charge of providing evidence of student learning and teaching effectiveness that demonstrates it is fulfilling its educational mission, including:

- 3a.** The organization's goals for student learning outcomes are clearly stated for each educational program and make effective assessment possible.
- 3b.** The organization values and supports effective teaching.
- 3c.** The organization creates effective learning environments.
- 3d.** The organization's learning resources support student learning and effective teaching.

A paradigm shift has occurred with the movement away from a minimum threshold model to the utilization of a competency based model, which assesses competencies, objectives and outcomes. Dr. Shriner's presentation is also available on the Graduate Council website <http://www.utoledo.edu/graduate/facultystaff/gradcouncil/index.html>.

### ***Standing Committee Reports***

None.

### ***Organizational Reports***

#### **Report of the Graduate Student Association**

Mr. Thihal Ponnaiyan, President of the Graduate Student Association, informed the Council that the UT Midwest Graduate Research Symposium 2010 held on March 20, 2010, at the Memorial Field House was a tremendous success. A total of 109 students had registered for the symposium (64 oral presentations and 45 poster presentations) and 104 of them turned up to present their research. There were over 20 participants from neighboring universities like Eastern Michigan, Central Michigan, Cincinnati, etc. Two awards and 5 honorable mentions were given in each category, poster and oral. Participants spanned across a wide variety of disciplines including engineering, physical & natural sciences, education, business, law, health science, medicine, pharmacy, etc. Several student and faculty volunteers were present as well.

Mr. Ponnaiyan thanked Drs. Komuniecki, Templin, Sawicki, and Dr. Naganathan, all the members of the GC, student volunteers and faculty judges who helped in organizing the symposium. He said that copies of the symposium proceedings will be circulated to all the members of the GC shortly.

Mr. Ponnaiyan stated that this research symposium is to be made an integral part of the academic culture at UT in the coming years and requested the GC to continue encouraging their students in their respective departments to participate.

### ***Old Business***

None.

### ***New Business***

None.

### ***Adjournment***

There being no further business the Council adjourned at 2:04 p.m.