

Graduate Council Minutes
April 2, 2013
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
Health Science Campus, HEB 103

Present: Brian Ashburner, Barbaranne Benjamin, James Benjamin, David Black, Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, Mary Ellen Edwards, Timothy Fisher, Max Funk, David Giovannucci, Kay Grothaus, Mohamed Samir Hefzy, Ruth Hottell, Junghwan Kim, Patricia Komuniecki, Sara Lundquist, Joseph Margiotta, Holly Monsos, Timothy Mueser, Lori Pakulski, Nick Piazza, Patricia Relue, Dorothea Sawicki, Constance Schall, Rebecca Schneider, Snejana Slantcheva-Durst, Cynthia Smas, Susan Sochacki, Gerard Thompson, Joshua Waldman, Kandace Williams.

Excused: Renee Heberle, David Jex, Douglas Nims, Susan Pocotte, William Taylor.

Absent: Charlene Gilbert, Paul Hong, Wayne Hoss, Anand Kunnathur, Monica McKnight, Surya Nauli, Frank Pizza, Randall Ruch, Mark Templin, James Trempe, James Willey.

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Approval of Minutes

The meeting was called to order and the roll called. The Minutes of the March 19, 2013 are awaiting final review.

Executive Reports

Report of the Executive Committee of the Graduate Council – Dr. Nick Piazza

Dr. Nick Piazza, Graduate Council (GC) Chair, mentioned that he has spent the last week recovering from bronchitis and was therefore unable to follow through on as many items as he intended. The first item of business to report on is regarding the Graduate Council's open letter to President Lloyd Jacobs, M.D., Chancellor Jeffrey Gold, M.D., and Provost Scott Scarborough which resulted in a meeting with Provost Scarborough on Wednesday, March 27th. The meeting also included Vice Provost John Barrett, Dr. David Giovannucci and Dr. Piazza representing the Graduate Council, and Dr. Mike Dowd and Dr. Linda Rouillard representing the Faculty Senate. The discussion, which Dr. Piazza felt was frank and open, emphasized that research at the University is very important for marketing because research is what attracts graduate students to UT. The research performed at UT is important to branding UT as it is what distinguishes students choosing UT over other universities. Research is fiscally important to UT in that it brings in external funding, and our graduate students bring in state share of instruction and tuition and fees.

While Provost Scarborough stated that he was not unsympathetic to the arguments made in the open letter, he remains convinced that the fiscal situation at the University is dire enough to require an emphasis on teaching load with an accompanying de-emphasis on research at least for the near term. Provost Scarborough also claimed that his office has tried to be generous in interpreting exceptions. Vice Provost Barrett cited several situations in which workloads were renegotiated and stated that they tried to be flexible with class size minimums. Dr. Scarborough said that courses that are core to a graduate program would be exempt from the minimums.

Dr. Piazza mentioned that although he cannot confirm that these discussions resulted in any movement on or changes in the application of the Provost's workload policy, the meeting did end with the Provost pledging to continue to work with the Graduate Council and Faculty Senate leadership on this issue.

Dr. Piazza stated that he will pledge to keep pressing home these arguments and to keep Graduate Council informed as events develop. Dr. Piazza suggested reading the March 27th issue of the *Independent Collegian* where the letter of Graduate Council received considerable coverage starting on page one. Regarding questions about exemptions when courses are core to a student's program, it was noted that each circumstance will be looked at on a case-by-case basis. Departments will need to make a case for such a request.

The second item of business concerned revising the Graduate Faculty Constitution to include language that addresses the new University Council. In addition, as mentioned in previous meetings, there are several GC functions that need to be included in the Graduate Faculty Constitution as well. Although delayed by Dr. Piazza's illness, a draft document was completed over the weekend in hopes to deliver to Dr. Mark Templin and the Constitution and Bylaws Committee for editing. Once a final draft is authored, the finished document will be presented to the GC for approval and then eventual adoption by the Graduate Faculty vote.

Report of the Graduate Student Association (GSA) – Mr. Joshua Waldman

Mr. Joshua Waldman, President of the GSA, reported that the MGRS event to be held on April 20, 2013 is progressing nicely except for the number of judges—only 12 have signed up (6 are from UT). He asked Council members to consider serving as a judge for this event. There are currently 200 individuals signed up representing 15 universities. The GSA Graduate Research Award program, applications (which became available on March 29th) can be accessed at www.utoledogsa.com. Mr. Waldman thanked Dr. Pocotte, Ms. Denise Gayer and Ms. Tammy Oelkrug for their assistance. The deadline for the applications is April 19th. The award budget is \$10,000 with a cap of \$2,000 for each award. The Graduate Student Affairs Committee, which is comprised of four Graduate Faculty and four graduate students, will review the applications and make its recommendations. In the case of a conflict of interest, the advisor or student will abstain from voting. The winners will be announced at the Graduate Council meeting on April 30th. Dean Komuniecki mentioned that this activity should be included in the Graduate Council Bylaws. The GSA nomination time is as follows:

Nominations Open: March 25, 2013
Nominations Due: April 5, 2013 at Noon
Online Elections Start: April 8, 2013
Online Elections End: April 19, 2013 at 11:59 p.m.
New Officers Announced: April 30, 2013

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

Dean Komuniecki provided the following updates:

○ *Admissions Updates*

Dean Komuniecki was pleased to report that applications for fall 2013 remain strong. As of April 1st COGS has processed 2,902 applications, and admitted 452 students. The decision pages are flooding into COGS and there is a 24-hour turnaround. Dean Komuniecki is signing acceptance letters every day. She stressed the importance of program admissions committees completing their deliberations about acceptances. It would be great to see an increase in graduate enrollments for fall. She noted that very preliminary FTE reports are optimistic, but UT starts tracking these numbers seriously in May.

○ *Strengthening Pathways for Higher Education into Careers Event*

The all-day summit was held at OSU on Monday, March 25th, and was very informative. Dean Komuniecki represented UT at that event attended by about 100 people, and had the opportunity to listen to presentations from major including Battelle, Honda, IBM, GE Aviation, Parker Hannifin, and others as well

as representatives from the OBR Chancellor's staff and Jobs Ohio. Former Chancellor Eric Fingerhut, now Vice President of Education and STEM Learning at Battelle and Brian Fitzgerald, CEO of the Business-Higher Education Forum led off the morning with two University Presidents also making remarks. Gordon Gee from OSU and Barbara Snyder from CWRU were co-hosts for the event with CGS and Battelle.

The summit brought together graduate deans from OSU, Cincinnati and UT with corporate and industrial partners and policy makers to discuss how we can all work together to meet Ohio's needs for a highly skilled and educated workforce, particularly in the STEM disciplines. Debra Stewart, CGS President, and Jeffrey Wadsworth, CEO at Battelle, were panelists at one session that highlighted the importance of graduate education in the 21st century. Dean Komuniecki had the opportunity to mention the Professional Science Master's degree and how graduates from those programs are employed immediately after completion of their graduate programs. She mentioned, in particular, that UT has two PSMs –in Photovoltaics and Biomarkers & Diagnostics. At a future GC meeting, Dean Komuniecki would like to share the 10-minute video executive summary from the joint CGS-ETS Commission produced last April on this important topic. Pat Osmer, Dean of the OSU Graduate School, co-chaired that commission that highlights many of the themes presented last week at OSU.

○ *Fellowships, Scholarships and Awards-Update*

The Graduate Council Fellowships and Scholarships Committee and the COGS Diversity Committee have met to identify recipients. The decisions have been made and implementation is in process. As soon as the award recipients are notified, Dean Komuniecki will report back to Graduate Council.

○ *Points of Pride*

- Doctoral student, Mr. Tom Allen, working with his advisor Dr. Tom McGeath in the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, just published a major astronomy paper as a result of his observations on a developing star cluster named Cep OB3b. He used the Kitt Peak National Observatory (NOAO) and worked with an international team (UMass, Exeter, Keel, and the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics and Space Telescope Science Institute.
- Doctoral student, Ms. Stephanie Fowler, recently won a Junior Researcher Award at an international conference in Tübingen Germany. Her work focuses on the psychobiological and neurobiological mechanism of placebo and nocebo responses. She is an experimental psychologist working with Dr. Andy Geer in CLLSS.
- LAMP students in the Judith Herb College of Education recently held a poster session about their work in classroom pedagogy in STEM education in secondary schools. Those 26 students in the accelerated licensure program included the 12 Woodrow Wilson fellows that we recognized earlier this year at Graduate Council.
- A Master's student, Ms. Monika Kamakar, recently received the "Best Postgraduate Paper Award in the ESAS (economic, social and administrative science) category at the annual national meeting of the American Pharmacists Association in Los Angeles. Coauthors on her paper included her advisor Dr. Sharrel Pinto, and Dr. Tim Jordan, Dr. Monica Holiday Goodman and Dr. Iman Mohammed. A true example of an interdisciplinary project between pharmacy, medicine and health education.
- Last, but certainly not least, congratulations to the 52 graduate students in the Colleges of Medicine and Life Sciences and Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences who took part in the recent Council of Biomedical Graduate Students Research Forum making poster and oral presentations.

Many of you served as judges for this forum and the competition for the top awards was very keen. Information on the two top student winners:

- M.D./Ph.D. candidate, Ms. Laura Halpin working with Dr. Bryan Yamamoto in Neurosciences was the 1st place winner in the oral category and fifth year Ph.D. candidate, Ms. Minal Mulye, working with Dr. Mark Wooten in the IIT track was the 1st place winner in the poster category. Congratulations to all the other winners and participants.

○ *Announcements*

Professional Development Programs

The last ETD Open labs will be held this week in Carlson 1025 on Wednesday and Thursday (April 3rd/4th) with a view to meeting the ETD deadline for the upload of spring theses and dissertations is Friday, April 5th.

- Spring Graduation Applicants to date

The degree audit processing of prospective spring graduates is in full swing and COGS staff have already worked on about 570 applicants for spring graduation. As you know, graduation clearance continues for 30 days after the spring commencement to allow for the students to get all their final grades submitted.

- Spring Commencement

Dean Komuniecki encouraged Council members to consider serving as a marshal, particularly if they are already planning to attend to hood a student. Additionally, COGS needs to inform the Provost's office of the graduate marshals and readers very soon.

Information and Discussion Items

Status Update on Graduate Education and Research on the Health Science Campus

Dr. Piazza introduced Dr. Jeffrey Gold, Chancellor and Executive Vice President for Biosciences and Health Affairs, and Dean, College of Medicine.

Dr. Gold offered a warm welcome to Council and shared his appreciation for being invited to attend this meeting. He stated that prior to today's he received several suggested items to address. He indicated that today's discussion would be an open dialogue and he asked that the Council feel comfortable to ask him anything. He stated that this is the first time he has attended Graduate Council this year.

Dr. Gold reported on preparations by the College of Medicine for the upcoming LCME accreditation visit April 29 – May 1, 2013. The U.S. Department of Education recognizes LCME for accreditation of programs of medical education leading to an M.D. in the U.S. This is Dr. Gold's eighth year on the board and he will be the chairperson. The visit to UT will be a high stakes visit. The UT LCME self-study steering committee submitted about 3,500 pages of material at the end of January 2013. Another 40-50 pages were made available for the 30-day update. A visiting team will join the committee and a site visit welcome team will be available. Approximately 25-28 groups have been assembled which are comprised of faculty, staff, and leadership who will be meeting with LCME visiting team. If Graduate Council is interested, all materials (every single piece of self-study) can be accessed on the website portal. All versions are available for review. A scheduled, open town hall meeting will occur in the interest of total transparency following the exit interview in May 2013. This will immediately provide information back to the college. Dr. Gold stated that he is often asked how we are doing. Although it is difficult to tell, the outlook is positive as since our materials were categorized as well-written and highly organized. It was noted that there was nothing missing from database. That is the first time in eight years that nothing was missing. Dr. Connie Shriner is the steering committee chair.

Within four weeks there will be a first draft of the report. The final report on the UT College of Medicine accreditation will be submitted to the LCME for the October 2013 meeting, at which time the outcome will be released.

Dr. Gold reported that the budget is still in development for the academic side, auxiliary, and for service units on the medical center. However, a majority of budget prehearings have already been conducted. It needs to come together by the end of the fiscal year so that the President can make recommendation to the Board of Trustees. Departments have been asked to come forward with their projections on budgets for revenue and expenditures to be incorporated into the centralized budget tool. There will be a total of 44 budget hearings. Implications of State funding will affect how the hearings are conducted. There are some assumptions about enrollment that continue to evolve. We are just beginning the formal budget assembly process. We do not have a final handle on budget assumptions as of yet. Once budget hearings are completed, Provost Scarborough, Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Dave Dabney and Chancellor Gold will figure out where we are and where we need to be. Dr. Gold stated that he has been doing this for years and has never experienced a budget surplus at this stage of development. The budget will be derived from how much is realizable and how much is doable. Depreciation and enrollment will be fed into the process as well. This process is not complex conceptually, but it is complex strategically. Dr. Gold stated that UT is a mission-driven university and he is reminded of what Dr. Jacobs says, 'When in doubt, read the core values and mission statement of the University.' Dr. Gold stated that he understands the concerns of all due to the magnitude that we are all facing.

Discussion with Chancellor Gold:

Dr. Gold asked Council members if they had any questions.

When asked about enrollment numbers thus far, Dr. Gold stated that the College of Medicine, College of Pharmacy, and College of Nursing enrollment projects are extremely solid. While he was not certain of undergraduate numbers on the Main Campus, Dean Komuniecki has kept him updated on the solid enrollment of graduate enrollment on the Main Campus. Dean Komuniecki noted that graduate enrollment increases in August following the arrival of international students who register at that time. The undergraduate program numbers at present are preliminary. Dr. David Giovannucci reconfirmed that college projections on the HSC are solid and that there is growth in each area in undergraduate and graduate enrollment.

Dr. Gold asked Council for their insights regarding enthusiasm for enrollment of continuing and new graduate students. A concern was shared that due to decreased federal funding it has become increasingly more difficult to garner federal grants. There is potential difficulty of keeping graduate programs populated. Dr. Gold echoed that sentiment by stating that a major concern is bridge funding. He referenced the fact that the College of Medicine now has several million dollars of bridge grant support that goes into the budget, for example, that amount is \$1.75 million this year. When grant support is not sufficient, the college picks up the support. We know when the grants time out and have built the support into the budget to cover those student stipends, but not the unencumbered salary support of the investigator. We have built contingency into the budget in accordance, and it is a larger number than used previously. Since NIH is the primary funding agency for the College of Medicine, there is much concern regarding the sequestration process.

A question was raised regarding the possibility of opening a dental school on the University of Toledo Health Science Campus. Dr. Gold explained that he had given a presentation on this topic to the External Affairs Committee of the BOT earlier this month and at the Faculty Senate on March 26th to inform them where UT stands.

While there are currently a number of graduate dental programs, there has been an interest in beginning an undergraduate dental program. The State of Ohio could use another undergraduate dental school as there is a definite need. There is a dental school at Ohio State University and another small private school at Case Western. There are 14,000 applications for 5,000 slots. As a result of that, they looked at the demographics of dentistry in Northwest Ohio and found tremendous practice demand and long waiting lists. Dr. William Davis, a faculty member of the College of Medicine, asked Columbus if there would there be a way to fund this. He was informed that Med1Line would be able to participate in funding. Dr. Gold stated that we are at the very nascent aspect of this venture and have conducted some study regarding feasibility. When it was ascertained that we could link dental assistant and dental hygiene programs to this, it substantially increased our interest. Additionally, a member in our community would like to support this endeavor through a philanthropic gift. If we do this, we will follow the President Lloyd Jacobs' mantra, we will not be building anything new – no new footers in the ground. We do have other space that could be renovated. We have not selected the 3rd party vendor, but we are looking at a company based in Atlanta, AAL, which is good at building feasibility projections. Dr. Gold explained that a lot of work needs to be done on this and that he would be back speaking to Graduate Council if it becomes anything other than a “what-if” concept.

Council expressed concern over lack of classroom space with a dental program and that potentially 60-80 students would take courses along with medical students since lecture halls are already full. Dr. Gold responded that this necessitates that we become creative and suggested the possibility of teaching in shifts and/or webcasting as possible solutions. Although we are classroom-strapped and very full, there is very little opportunity to expand the medical school classrooms.. We are looking at every possible enrollment benefit that we can achieve. We have extremely skilled faculty capable of delivering this curriculum. The U.S. public average dental tuition is \$10,000 more per year than our medical school charges. We are not interested in doing anything other than covering our costs so it would need to be financially feasible.

Dean Komuniecki noted that the Physician Assistant program has received record numbers of applications ~800 for approximately 40 to 50 openings which means there is unmet demand. She questioned whether there is opportunity to expand enrollment in the program? She added that a new PA program was recently approved for another program in Ohio by the RACGS committee of the OBR. Dr. Gold responded that there is a delicate balance of quality of program and enrollment. He added that our numbers have increased from 30 to 45 and that he would like to see it move to 50. He was pleased to note that our PA program is respected and that UT hires its graduates.

Dr. Gold thanked GC for the invitation and said that he would be glad to provide a follow up after the LCME visit.

Chair Piazza thanked Dr. Gold for addressing these topics and said the he is welcome anytime.

Standing Committee Reports

GC Chair Piazza stated that there are no Bylaws and Constitution Committee reports today but that those can be expected at the next meeting.

Report of the Bylaws and Constitution Committee

None.

Report of the Curriculum Committee

None.

Report of the Membership Committee

On behalf of the Membership Committee, Dr. Mohammed Hefzy, committee chair, reported that the committee reviewed a large number of applications and that there were no incomplete applications. This report summarized the committee's recent recommendations. He noted that new college names will be listed on future reports. Dr. Hottell asked if the Membership Committee will review more membership application before the end of spring semester to which Dr. Hefzy replied that the committee will do its best to complete review of current applications but may not be able to do so due to the large number of applications submitted this spring. Those that are not reviewed by then can be done during the summer and the report can be submitted to the Graduate Council Executive Committee.

GRADUATE FACULTY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS SPRING 2013 - List 1 (March 2013)							
College	Full	Associate I	Associate II	Adjunct	Special Status	Returned	Total
Business	4	1	1	1			7
Engineering	10			1	1		12
JHCEHSHS**	11			5	4		20
LLSS	8		1	2	2		13
Medicine	11				1		12
NSM	13			1			14
Nursing	2		1				3
Pharmacy	2			3			5
Libraries					1		1
Total	61	1	3	13	9	0	87

Report of the Bylaws Committee

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Dean Komuniecki informed Council of UT's recent State review of its participation (11 scholarships) in the Choose Ohio First (COF) scholarship programs for graduate and undergraduate students.

UT3: Improving STEM Teacher Preparation (recently completed) and
 The Woodrow Wilson scholars are now receiving COF scholarship monies

Ohio Consortium for Bioinformatics
COFFEE: COF for Engineering Entrepreneurship
Pharmacy Scholarships (last year)
Creating Affordable Effective Educational IT Pathways
BOSEF-Building Ohio's Sustainable Energy Future
BS in Biology/MS in Bioinformatics Pipeline
PSM in Photovoltaics
Primary Care Scholarships-Nursing
Primary Care Scholarships-Medicine

The COF program has existed since 2008 and has provided millions of dollars of scholarship funding for students with a condition that they remain in Ohio for a specified period of time. In January 2013, OBOR made changes in how programs report to the State. Each institution was asked to designate one point person and Vice Provost Komuniecki got the nod to organize and lead the review process for UT. Our team is comprised of Graduate Faculty, Associate Deans and Program Directors, who oversee these scholarships at UT, participated in a successful site visit (via desk review/webinar) on March 27th with OBOR COF Director Briana Hervett. Each of our directors made a report and they were pleased with our centralized process on March 27th. We are very proud of the colleagues who have been working on this and it has been a pleasure to work with them.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Council adjourned at 1:50 p.m.