

**Graduate Council Minutes  
November 15, 2011  
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.  
Main Campus, Driscoll Center, Board Room**

Present: Brian Ashburner, Michael Bechill (GSA), Barbaranne Benjamin, James Benjamin, Timothy Brakel, Wendy Cochrane, Mark Denham, Michael Dowd, Mary Ellen Edwards, Brian Fink, Timothy Fisher, Amira Gohara, Hassan Hassab-Elnaby, Mohamed Hefzy, Wayne Hoss, Ruth Hottell, Junghwan Kim, Jon Kirchoff, Patricia Komuniecki, Sara Lundquist, Sheryl Milz, Holly Monsos, Timothy Mueser, Douglas Nims, Nick Piazza, Frank Pizza, Susan Pocotte, Patricia Relue, Linda Rouillard, Dorothea Sawicki, Constance Schall, Barbara Schneider, Snejana Slantcheva-Durst, William Taylor, James Trempe, Mark Templin, Gerard Thompson

Excused: Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, Kay Grothaus, Bina Joe, Anand Kunnathur, Surya Nauli, Joseph Margiotta, Dianne Smolen

Absent: David Giovannucci, Randall Ruch

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

Roll was called and the Minutes of the Graduate Council meeting of October 4, 2011 were approved.

Chair Dowd suspended the agenda so that Council could note the passing of Dr. Alice Skeens, Dean of the College of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences, on November 12, 2011. He stated that Dr. Skeens served on the Graduate Council and was a strong faculty leader centered in her principles, never betraying them. She was devoted to students and The University of Toledo. There was a pause for a moment of silence in remembrance of our dear friend, Alice.

***Executive Reports***

**Report of the Executive Committee of the Graduate Council**

Dr. Nick Piazza reported on behalf of the Graduate Council Executive Committee (GCEC). The Graduate Council (GC) Standing Committees are near to being full populated with the exception of the Graduate Program Review Committee. Council members currently not serving on a committee should give consideration to representing their college on this important committee. In order to provide adequate representation from the Judith Herb College of Education, Health Science and Human Service, as a stop-gap measure until written into the Bylaws, several committees include one rep. from the Education and one rep from Health Science and Human Service. Fall Commencement will take place on Sunday, December 18, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in Savage Arena. Dean Komuniecki will seek volunteers for one reader and two marshals. Dr. Nick Piazza volunteered as the reader. At the last GCEC meeting, there was discussion of the future of shared governance following a Board of Trustees (BOT) sub-committee meeting which discussed looking at alternative structures for faculty governance to the current structure, with a move away from a Faculty Senate to a University Senate. Although details are not worked out, the Faculty Senate and Graduate Council would likely become committees of a University Senate. There is considerable enthusiasm on board for this paradigm. We hope to be invited to their next meeting and would like to have a Graduate Council representative of Vice Provost Komuniecki on that committee.

### Report of the Graduate Student Association

Mr. Michael Bechill, President of the Graduate Student Association reported that the GSA General Assembly meeting was held on October 18, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. on the Main Campus, in the Law Building Auditorium; 28 people were in attendance. The next meeting is today, November 15, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. on the Health Science Campus, in the Health Education Building Room 103. GSA representatives serve on a variety of external committees; updates are, Mr. Aaron Shaw -Student Advisory Board, Ms. Jacquelyn Cearfoss – Student Health Insurance Committee, Ms. Laura Scroggs - LLSS Technology Committee, and Mr. Michael Bechill and Mr. Joshua Waldman - Graduate Council. The GSA budget will be released with a full presentation at tonight's General Assembly. The Social Events Committee has been busy planning participation in the following events:

- October 22, 2011 Tailgate party
- November 4, 2011 Family House Volunteer/Fundraising
- November 11, 2011 Bowling night fundraiser event. Funds will be donated to the Midwest Graduate Research Symposium
- January 21, 2012 there will be a fundraiser event. Funds will be donated to the Publication Society
- January 28, 2011 Euchre tournament fundraiser event. Funds will be donated to the Midwest Graduate Research Symposium

As of November 14<sup>th</sup>, 37 people have completed the online travel reimbursement application with a 100% pass rate.

With only 80 days until the registration deadline for the Midwest Graduate Research Symposium (MGRS), the Publication Relations Committee and Symposium coordinators are recruiting participants by contacting the deans of 24 universities with information about the symposium. UT department chairs will also be contacted. Online registration for students and judges will be posted soon providing an early and a late deadline. There no cost for registering by the early deadline, however, there is a late registration fee of \$5. The keynote speaker has been identified but plans are not yet finalized. The goal is to have approximately 300 presenters and 500 participants. With the expected growth for this year's symposium, the GSA is working toward self-funding a greater portion of the event – up to 80% with the goal of raising \$10,000 in funds to help off-set the financial impact of COGS fully supporting this event. Mr. Joshua Waldman is seeking companies interested in sponsoring this type of event. Additionally, he is speaking to deans and professors at UT to garner their support. The symposium date is Saturday, March 24, 2012.

The GSA has established office hours for the fall semester, with each officer serving six hours in in SU 1509 in fall. Hours are posted on our website.

Lastly, the Graduate Student Association will be featured on the online video 'Presidential Perspectives'. Although the undergraduate student government is regularly interviewed, this will be the first interview for the GSA.

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

Dean Patricia Komuniecki was delighted to share the good news on the COGS FY13 Budget. COGS has already been informed by the senior leadership that it will not have any cuts to the stipend and tuition scholarship budgets for FY13 even though UT is facing a budget shortfall between \$11M and \$25M for the next fiscal year. The FY13 stipend budget will be \$6.8 M. The FY13 tuition scholarship budget will include the \$1.242M budget amendment that COGS requested and received in June 2011, thus, we will have a total of \$18.4M to distribute to the colleges for FY13. These funds will be allocated to the colleges by next week, so that we will be able to make offers to our best applicants immediately.

All colleges are guaranteed 95% of their FY12 funding, and the remaining funds may be allocated as in the past or, in some cases, reallocated in accordance with our strategic goals.

Dean Komuniecki urged Council to make the most of this show of faith in COGS and the graduate programs to address the 3.8% dip in graduate enrollments this fall and go out and recruit the best and the brightest as soon as possible! We would like to be at 5,000 graduate students.

At the present time, indications are that UT will try to hold the line on graduate tuition this year, but final information will not be available for a few months. It would be terrific news if we can avoid any tuition increases for our students. One of the budget assumptions is to hold the line on any new fees as well. Hence, the charge to the Budget Amelioration Committee is to identify new sources of possible revenue to address projected budget shortfalls.

Dr. Dorothea Sawicki and Dr. Hassan Hassab-Elanby volunteered to serve as marshals at fall commencement following Dean Komuniecki's request for volunteers.

Additionally, Dean Komuniecki provided the following updates:

o *Admissions*

Thanks to Debbie Andrews, Manager of Admissions, COGS now has a LIVE CHAT (same as online chat used in the COIL) option available for prospective students to assist them with application questions. Within 30 minutes of its activation, we had the first chat with a prospective student in India. We also will correspond with students who do not complete their applications to encourage them to do so. In addition, COGS now has a Facebook page (link on our homepage should be live today)- we post information there on a regular basis regarding scholarships and other news of interest. Expect to hear more about how COGS can use social media to reach out students- we expect to have COGS on Twitter as well.

o *Academic Affairs*

We are having good compliance with the requirement that new graduate students complete the three supplemental modules (Academic Integrity, Diversity and Harassment) before the end of term. Associate Deans will be sent reports to let them know about any students in their colleges that are not in compliance at this point.

o *Professional Development Programs*

Just a reminder that master calendar for all the professional development programs and workshops is posted on the COGS website. We had a workshop on how to publish a paper last week and yesterday had one on resumes and CVs. This afternoon from 4:00 -5:00 p.m. in Carlson 2000 there will be a workshop on preparing posters and PowerPoint presentations at meetings. Please encourage your students to review the offerings and participate in the sessions most relevant for them.

o *ETD –OhioLINK Submission*

The deadline is this Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. COGS is providing two more last minute ETD hands-on lab sessions this week to assist our students: 2-3:30 on Wednesday and Thursday in Carlson Library 1025. So please remind your students who are graduating in December of these sessions and the firm upload deadline this Friday. Also, I would like to dispel some rumors about the fate of OhioLINK- all their ETD systems are continuing as usual, so we need not anticipate any major concerns.

o *Annual Graduate Faculty Meeting*

This has been rescheduled for Thursday, February 2, 2012 at 12:30 p.m. in SU 2592. The topic this year will be "Graduate Education in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century".

Discussion:

Dr. Michael Dowd noted that the good news on the FY 13 stipend and tuition budget (no cuts to the stipend or tuition scholarship budget and the inclusion of the \$1.24M budget amendment increase from June 2011) is a reflection of Dean Komuniecki's efforts in bringing this forward to the administration.

Dr. Wayne Hoss inquired where UT ranks in the region and state regard to cost. Dean Komuniecki responded that COGS has compared the cost of UT vs. regional and state-wide peer and aspirational institutions and has learned that UT is at the top. She noted that Ohio State University and The University of Cincinnati pay for health insurance for graduate assistants, as does the University of Michigan. We may need to address some areas of stipend inequity.

Dr. Barbara Schneider commented that UT is continuing to work with OhioLINK and that they were moving quickly on creating a more efficient search mechanism for the depository. Cost savings on journals has not been realized yet.

***Information and Discussion Items***

COGS Assessment Update

Dr. Susan Pocotte presented the College of Graduate Studies Assessment Report via PowerPoint presentation. With the College of Graduate Studies initial representation on the University Assessment Committee in 2010, COGS formalized its first assessment plan in 2011 as part of a comprehensive and summative annual report submission to UAC for evaluation. This review process is not the same a program review, although it contains some aspects of that assessment. The UAC is also evolving to improve assessment processes. The COGS report is included on the UAC website at <http://www.utoledo.edu/offices/provost/main/assessment/committees/Index.html>. Since COGS is assessed on service outcomes, it seeks the voice of the GSA and the graduate faculty stakeholders in this process.

COGS Mission and Vision Statements

In response to the need for the College of Graduate Studies to create explicit mission and vision statements, COGS drafted and refined these statements in collaboration with the Graduate Council Executive Committee and the Council of Associate Deans. For informational purposes, Dean Komuniecki read aloud both statements (that were also displayed on the projection screen). Dr. Hottell was in agreement with COGS statements in that its message are similar to other schools. There was general support for the statements which will be posted to the COGS website

GRE Scale

Dean Komuniecki reported that the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scale has now implemented a new scale 130-170 in 1-point increments. The mean verbal score is 151 +/-8.75 and the mean quantitative score is 152 +/-8.75. The printed version of the webinar will be available later today at [www.ets.org/gre/infocenter](http://www.ets.org/gre/infocenter). See the concordance table at [www.ets.org/gre/concordance](http://www.ets.org/gre/concordance).

***Standing Committee Reports***

Report of the Curriculum Committee

Dr. Patricia Relue, Graduate Curriculum Committee Chair, presented the recommendations of the committee. Council approved unanimously.

NEW COURSES

MD	Public Health and Preventive Medicine	Reproductive Epidemiology	PUBH:616	This course is an elective in the MPH program. Course will discuss reproductive health issues from the pre-conception, prenatal, delivery, and postnatal periods; will emphasize health issues affecting women, men, and infants. Course will focus on current research, controversial issues, and methodological issues. Prerequisite: PUBH 601.
LS	English Language and Literature	Semantics and Pragmatics	LING:5260	Formal theories of semantics (meaning systems of human languages) and pragmatics (the ways in which context contributes to meaning). LING 5260 additionally includes primary sources and seminal readings in the area, by the original authors, excepting those that have been translated into English (e.g., Plato). Graduate students will be expected to conduct and present independent research on topics in semantics and pragmatics. Cross-list: LING 4260; Prerequisite: ENGL-5150 or LING-5150

COURSE MODIFICATIONS

LS	Economics	Monetary Theory	ECON:5120	Change in credit hours from 3 to 4 to allow instructor to present graduate students with more advanced technical and empirical analysis. This more advanced material will be covered with 1 hr/week additional lecture for the graduate students that is not presented to the undergraduates in ECON-4120.
LS	Economics	Labor Economics	ECON:5250	Change in credit hours from 3 to 4 to allow instructor to present graduate students with more advanced technical and empirical analysis. This more advanced material will be covered with 1 hr/week additional lecture for the graduate students that is not presented to the undergraduates in ECON-4250.
LS	Economics	International Economics I	ECON:5510	Change in credit hours from 3 to 4 to allow instructor to present graduate students with more advanced technical and empirical analysis. This more advanced material will be covered with 1 hr/week additional lecture for the graduate students that is not presented to the undergraduates in ECON-4510.
LS	Economics	Public Finance	ECON:5660	Change in credit hours from 3 to 4 to allow instructor to present graduate students with more advanced technical and empirical analysis. This more advanced material will be covered with 1 hr/week additional lecture for the graduate students that is not presented to the undergraduates in ECON-4660.

Report of the Membership Committee

Dr. Mohamed Hefzy, Membership Committee Chair, reported on the committee's recommendations of the first batch of the Fall 2011 applications. So that the Membership Committee has complete information for those individuals seeking Special Membership, the reasons should be clearly indicated on the application. Dr. Hefzy also noted that the committee maintains records on its decision process.

Report accepted.

GRADUATE FACULTY MEMBERSHIP REPORT TO GC NOVEMBER 15, 2011							
Graduate Faculty Applications - FALL 2011							
College	Full	Associate I	Associate II	Adjunct	Special Status	Returned	Total
Business	4	2					6
Education*	1				1		2
Engineering	2			1			3
HSHS**	1	2		3	1		7
Law							
LLSS	2			2			4
Medicine					1		1
NSM	2						2
Nursing	3		1				4
Pharmacy							
Honors	1						1
COIL							0
VPA							
Total	16	4	1	6	3		30

**COIL:** College of Innovative Learning  
**HSHS:** Health Science and Human Service  
**LLSS:** Language, Literature and Social Sciences  
**NSM:** Natural Sciences and Mathematics  
**VPA:** Visual and Performing Arts  
 \*\*Judith Herb College of Education, Health Science and Human Service

**Old Business**

Dean Komuniecki stated that since every college is required to provide a diversity plan to the University-wide Diversity Council showing progress toward its goals, she is seeking approximately six graduate faculty to work with COGS on a regular basis toward this goal. Dean Komuniecki will write COGS first formal plan but would like the perspective of a larger group going forward in the future.

**New Business**

None.

**Adjournment**

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