The Graduate Council met on Thursday, March 6, 2003 at 2:30 p.m. in Devlin Hall in the 2nd Floor Conference Room.

Members Present: Dean Susan Kovar, J. Bryant, H. Cheraghi, P. Kahol (Associate Dean), L. Mitchell, H. Popp, E. Steinke, W. Woods, and S. Yeager

I. Approve Minutes of February 20, 2003 Meeting
Minutes of the February 20, 2003 meeting were approved with a minor correction.

II. Announcements
It was noted that the Graduate School has announced its Outstanding Graduate Student Awardees for FY03 and the following suggestions were made:
- Create and distributed to Council members a list of Outstanding Graduate Student Awardees, preferably covering the last three years. Dean Kovar indicated such a data base already exists. This year's awards will be added to that database and then copies can be given to Council members.
- After awards are made each year, announce award results (just for that year) to graduate coordinators through e-mail.
- Since the new award (Outstanding Master's Non-Thesis) may not be well known across campus, talk about this award at the next graduate coordinators' meeting.

The dean expressed concerns about FY 2004 awards due to the fact that many endowed accounts are well below their original level of endowment. It's possible that payouts in the future will be very low or nonexistence. Council members agreed that the practice of recognizing outstanding graduate students, even if there are no monetary awards, should be continued.

III. Consideration of Draft Bylaws
A draft Bylaws document was presented to the Council for comments, suggestions, and critique. The dean stressed that the bylaws document was produced by a committee (representing all the colleges/schools) that was given the charge of recording the current (and recent past) practices and operations of the Graduate School. Council members provided useful input on a number of issues dealing with the document. The review of this document will continue at future meetings.

IV. There was no As May Arise item.

Meeting adjourned around 4:10 p.m.