Minutes of Graduate Council Meeting

The Graduate Council met on Thursday, November 3, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. in RSC 207.


I. Approve Minutes of October 20, 2011 meeting
Minutes of the October 20, 2011 meeting were approved with a minor correction.

II. Old Business
a. Develop a policy for handling plagiarism found after a student has graduated
Council members continued discussions for developing a policy to handle cases of plagiarism cited after a student has already graduated, as the current policy in the University Policy and Procedure Manual (section 8.05) only deals with issues pertaining to current students. Following the discussion, Associate Dean Masud indicated he will write a draft policy for Council to put forward to Ted Ayres regarding a post-grad procedure.

b. Develop a policy for revoking Grad Faculty status
Based on continued discussions for revoking Graduate Faculty status, and that removing a faculty from teaching graduate courses or serving on committees ultimately affects the department more than the faculty member, Council agreed that individual cases should only be brought back for discussion as they occur, and if warranted Council may then determine if there is need to take on further to the Provost’s office.

III. New Business
a. 100-word Dissertation Abstract Project
Associate Dean Masud asked Council members if students should be required to prepare a 100-word abstract when completing their dissertations. Members agreed and thought it would be beneficial for WSU to have a non-technical summary of the work students produce when showcasing to the lay/general public. It was suggested to begin by asking students to write the abstracts on a voluntary basis. Assistant Dean Alagic also suggested that the ten students, who participate in the Capitol Graduate Research Summit in the spring, be able to present a real world translation of their research to the legislatures in Topeka.

As May Arise
Associate Dean Masud reiterated that the Assessment cycle is now every three years. Programs should collect the data on a yearly basis in order to prepare the 3-year assessment documents. Rick Muma’s office will be offering workshops to help departments prepare for the process. Student Learner Outcomes will also be incorporated into the assessment process.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.