Minutes of Graduate Council Meeting

The Graduate Council met on Thursday, April 7, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. in RSC 305.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dean D. McDonald, Associate Dean A. Masud, Assistant Dean M. Alagic, E. Behrman, M. Dawe, S. Farmer, T. Hill, M. Koehn, K. Rokhsaz, G. Scholl, M. Schommer-Aikins, A. Tran and student representative M. Mueller.

I. Approve Minutes of February 3, 2011 meeting
Minutes of the February 3, 2011 meeting were approved as distributed.

II. Old Business
   a. Exception Request from a Student
   Council members reviewed and discussed background material for a student’s exception request that they be granted their master’s degree for classes from many years ago. Council members voted unanimously to deny the exception request. Requested too many courses to be transferred from another institution and the degree does not exist anymore.

   b. RCR Update
   Associate Dean Masud indicated that the RCR Committee has been meeting to develop topics for creating scholarly integrity modules here at WSU. He noted that many outside agencies are now requiring training in this area, and the Council of Graduate Schools is looking to develop a common set of skills/knowledge base for training as well. CITI (Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative) offers modules in a variety of different topics, and the Office of Research Administration has a subscription for WSU faculty and students to use their service. Some WSU programs are now requiring their students to take the CITI modules. ORA is also using CITI for federal funding. The RCR Committee may follow the set of skills already developed by CITI, to come up with their own common set of skills to present to graduate faculty sometime in the fall semester.

   c. Council Elections
   Nomination requests for electing Council members in the areas of LAS, Engineering and Business will be sent out next week.

   d. Topics from MAGS Conference
   Associate Dean Masud attended the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools Annual conference at the end of March and made note of the following topics from the conference:
   1. Assessment of student outcomes and the need for developing assessment more within graduate programs, to align more with undergraduate programs that already have assessment in place.
   2. Discussion of Professional Science Masters that incorporate industry in graduate programs.
   3. International Dual Degrees.
   4. New regulation from the US Department of Education regarding Distance Education (effective July 1, 2011). If a student is taking courses from another state, they must get permission from their home state. If they do not, they will not be able to get federal financial aid.

III. As May Arise
   • No items were brought forth.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.