Minutes of Graduate Council Meeting

The Graduate Council met on Thursday, September 15, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. in RSC 314.


I. Approve Minutes of May 5, 2011 meeting
Minutes of the May 5, 2011 meeting were approved as distributed.

II. New Business
   a. Council Representatives
      Dr. Masud asked the current Business and Health Professions representative to check within their faculty groups to select the At-Large member from Business and a student representative from Health Professions to serve on the Council for this academic year. Steve Farmer, Bill Woods and Rick Armstrong also agreed to serve as faculty volunteers for Commencement in December.

   b. RCR Training Report
      Associate Dean Masud discussed with the Council members a report prepared by the Committee on Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR). The committee was formed to address issues that have arisen in recent years due to plagiarism cases in theses and dissertations, federal funding agency requirements, and to address the lack of understanding and knowledge regarding scholarly integrity, nationally. The committee determined that, at a minimum, the following four topics should be required in RCR training for students at WSU, preferably to be completed within a student’s first academic year: 1) Research Misconduct, 2) Publication Practices and Responsible Authorship, 3) Conflict of Interest and Commitment, and 4) Ethical Issues in Data Acquisition, Management, Sharing and Ownership.

      Programs will be asked to indicate how they plan to meet the new RCR training requirement with plans to begin roll-out in Fall 2012 semester for all doctoral students, and Fall 2013 for all masters students (thesis and non-thesis).

      Council members voted unanimously to approve the RCR Committee’s Report on Scholarly Integrity Training Requirement for Graduate Students, and suggested that a check be added to the Plan of Study form to ensure a student meets the requirement.

   c. New Learner Outcome Assessment Procedure
      • Every three year submission of the report
      • Data collection every year
      • Working with Rick Muma’s office to provide help with how to put data together;
        once a system is set up to do assessment, it becomes easier to continue the process.

      Associate Dean Masud asked members to relay assessment information to their program areas.

   d. GTA Tuition Waivers
      As the number of GA appointments and tuition increase over time, and no increase in the budget, Associate Dean Masud indicated there has been discussion of eliminating the tuition waivers for “assisting” GTA’s. A task force has been formed to look into possible options to help with continuing support for all GTA’s.
e. **CGRS**
Assistant Dean Alagic noted the Capitol Graduate Research Summit (CGRS) planning meeting will be held at WSU on September 22nd. CGRS is an important event where graduate students from WSU, KU, K-State, and KU Med present their research in Topeka to the Kansas legislature and the KBOR in the spring of each year.

### III. As May Arise
Dr. Masud asked Council members to review the future topics list on the agenda for what priority they see for upcoming Council discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.