Minutes of Graduate Council Meeting

The Graduate Council met on Thursday, September 6, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. in Lindquist Hall 200.


Dean Masud welcomed Council members to the new academic year. Members introduced themselves and indicated the area they represent on the Council. An updated list of the 2012-13 members was also distributed.

I. Approve Minutes of May 3, 2012 meeting
Minutes of the May 3, 2012 meeting were approved as distributed.

II. New Business
a. Provost Pickus
Provost Pickus attended the first part of the meeting to speak to Council about the various changes on campus, and within the Graduate School. As Dr. McDonald returned full time to faculty and Dr. Masud was named the Interim Dean, he indicated there are no plans to realign Graduate School under ORA, but thought it was premature to say whether or not the Dean search would happen this year or next, or if it would be an internal or external search. He also noted President Bardo is planning to have an external company do an audit of departments on campus including Graduate School, ORA, Admissions, etc., and advised Council to discuss/develop a strategic plan for items relative to graduate education, namely low graduate enrollments and recruitment.

Along those lines, Dean Masud proposed a subcommittee be created to work on a strategic plan for graduate education to address issues including recruitment, resources for handling increases in enrollment; low assistantship stipends; cross disciplinary programs, digitizing graduate processes, etc. Members asked the Dean to outline what expectations would be placed on the committee so they could better determine what serving on the committee would entail.

b. Student Appeals
   • Council members reviewed and discussed materials regarding a student’s appeal requesting they be readmitted to their program following dismissal. Following discussions, members agreed to ask both student and the department to attend the next Council meeting to present their case in front of members before a final decision will be made.

   • Dean Masud brought a second appeal forward regarding a request to the Graduate School to over-ride a pre-requisite and allow them to enroll in the course. The Graduate Council refused to make a decision on the request as this is a matter that should be resolved at the department level.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.