

**Graduate Affairs Committee
Minutes
March 25, 2008**

Present: Margaret Adamek, Paul Carlin, Pamela Crowell, George Edwards, Anthony Faiola, David Ford, Dominique Galli, Andrew Hsu, Marilyn Irwin, Michael Kowolik, Jane Lambert, Craig McDaniel, Bob Osgood, Jackie O’Palka, Mitchum Owen, Sherry Queener(Chair), Soren Svanum, Dan Pesut, Sharon Sims

Guests: Andrew Barth

Staff: David Koerner, Nelson Soto, Sue Wheeler, Beth Young

Approval of Minutes – Dr. Sherry Queener

Approved.

Corrections? Email Beth at ejmoody @ iupui dot edu

Updates: Graduate Education Day at the State House – The students did a great job, but unfortunately, not as many state representatives attended as was hoped. Purdue University will be planning next year’s event and Dr. Queener noted that idea of a Graduate Education Day is important and they will continue the tradition next year.

Two proposals that will be on the ALC Agenda on April 2nd:
e-Learning Graduate Certificate in Leadership in Clinical Pediatric Nutrition
Clinical Rehabilitation Psychology Name Change

Dr. Queener introduced our newest GAC member, George Edwards, from the School of Law.

Purdue Dean’s Report

Purdue University has been in the process of interviewing for: Provost, VP for Research, & Graduate School Dean.

Purdue holds a mentorship workshop for new faculty every Fall & Spring semester on the West Lafayette campus as well as IPFW & Calumet. Many new IU faculty seemed to have attended the workshop at IPFW.

Jane Goodall will be on the Purdue Campus on Saturday, March 29th to celebrate the 100th year of the Purdue School of Science.

See website for more details: <http://www.science.purdue.edu/centennial/goodall.asp>

Associate Dean’s Report – Dr. Sherry Queener

IUPUI Poetry Contest Awards Ceremony this Saturday 12:30 to 3pm @ CC 405
Acclaimed poet, Tyehimba Jess, will read his work and discuss the public role of poetry at the Awards Ceremony.

Website: <http://cls.iupui.edu/poetry/>

Midwest Association of Graduate Schools Thesis Award –Meghan Bishop’s (Liberal Arts) thesis from IUPUI. She will be receiving her award on April 2nd at the MAGS meeting and will give an oral presentation on her work. She will serve on a student panel the next day at the MAGS meeting.

NRC Survey will be released sometime in September 2008. It is hoped that the NRC will share the information in August before they make it public so we will have more time to plan responses before the public release.

IMIR has been working with us on an alternative way to look at retention data. Kathy Burton and Mehda Sukhatme have been working on a retention report that works at the program and plan level. We now have data from 2006-2007, which immediately follows the year of the NRC data. Kathy and Mehda now plan to go back 4 years and collect this data so we'll have a 5 year trend line. This will be for all graduate programs, including professional ones. According to the data, the average retention over all programs during 2006-07 is about 88 percent.

Dr. Queener would like to hear any suggestions from the GAC or other faculty as to how to use these reports or other information in responding to the NRC data release.

Graduate Office Report – Mr. David Koerner

Reminder: Graduate Office is *not* hosting a Hooding Ceremony this year. This includes the IU School of Medicine and for the first time in history that will combine the PhDs & MDs in a ceremony together.

The Graduate Office is now working on 5 different goals in their area:

1. Reduce amount the paper coming into our office and in our file cabinets.
2. Decrease the amount manual data entry.
3. Establishing target timelines to complete routine tasks.
 - a. Once targets established, reduce those targets.
4. Documentation in processing.
5. Looking at web presence – what we need to add and/or enhance.

Please keep sending the summer admissions.

The first Student Insurance meeting is not until April. It is estimated that there will be a 10% increase in the premium.

Nelson Soto also mentioned that on Thursday, March 27th Debra Barker will be leading a session sponsored by UPnGO & GSO called the Nuts and Bolts of Dissertation & Thesis in the Campus Center. The Graduate Office will email the GAC more details after the meeting.

The Graduate Student Survey was sent to 6416 graduate students. Some students were not sent this survey since they have already gotten other surveys for the evaluation of two Deans and an evaluation of UITS.

As of Tuesday, 18% response rate (about 1155 students have completed the survey).

The subject line on the survey was: **2008 IUPUI Graduate/Professional Student Survey**

IMIR will be sending out a reminder next week.

If students did not receive the survey and want to fill it out, they can contact Gary Pike (pikeg@iupui.edu) to have the survey sent to them.

David cannot stress the importance of having as many graduate and professional students as possible complete this survey.

Please be aware that Graduate and Professional students have never been surveyed before.

GSO Report – David

The USG & GSO have been working together on establishing a Dead Week on the IUPUI Campus. They found out that there is documentation showing that IUPUI has a Dead Week, but some individual faculty members were not adhering to the policy. Uday Sukhatme will be sending out a reminder to faculty about Dead Week on our campus. The UGS & GSO are now working on a proposal for a Fall Break on campus.

Chartwells will be speaking at the GSO meeting on this evening at 6:15pm (Tuesday, March 25th). All are welcome to attend.

The IUPUI Yard Sale is up and ready for registrations. This will be a huge tent sale on the Library Lawn on April 26th. Any individual, group, club, department, or school can get a booth space for \$15 and keep all of their proceeds as fundraising revenue for whatever they want to spend it on. Details may be found at www.circlecitysale.org.

Committee Business

Curriculum Subcommittee – Dr. Jackie O’Palka

The Curriculum Subcommittee will be meeting on Thursday, March 27th.

Fellowship Subcommittee – Mr. David Koerner

The Fellowship Committee has extended 19 Offers to Masters Candidates and one has accepted. At the PhD level, the committee extended 32 offers and 3 of those accepted and 3 declined.

The committee has an alternate list so people that may decline the offer, the committee can then extend the offer to the person on the alternate list.

Reponses for these offers are not due until April 15th.

Program Review – Dr. Sherry Queener

- Master of Science in Taxation – *Revision – Approved*
- Graduate Certificate in Media Arts and Science – *Revision – Approved*
- BS/MS in Geology Proposal
 - Dr. Queener feels that this does not need a vote of approval because the master’s degree is identical to the MS in Geology. She would like to use this proposal as a “road map” for future proposals similar to this request.
- MA in Applied Communications – Change in Credit Hours – *Approved*

Discussion

- Application Fees – In the budget proposal this year, Dr. Queener has proposed that the Graduate Office be given credit for the work we do with admissions meaning 20% of the admissions fees of those graduate programs the office serves go to Graduate Office. That would increase to 50% next year. This will put the Graduate Office in line with what’s done with the International Office and with the Undergraduate Admissions Office and as well as the IU Graduate School in Bloomington. Dr. Queener is unsure that this will happen, but she wanted to bring it to the committee’s attention. This process will decrease some of the application fee totals to some of the schools, but by staggering it this way – it won’t be too big of a change. We want to index income to the Graduate Office workload in admissions.

- Michael Kowolik, the Associate Dean of the IU Dental School: Did we envisage that if things continue as they are we might have students getting into trouble and defaulting on loans if interest rates continue to rise? The dental student fees are exorbitant – the dental student graduating from IUSD has debt totaling \$200,000 and the average graduate student is adding \$150,000 of debt, which is quite significant.

In light of the recent “rescue situation” with Sallie Mae, do you think this will affect graduate recruitment, retention, etc? Dr. Kowolik then asked the committee and Dr. Queener, if anyone else has any comments about these types of concerns.

Jane Lambert, Kelley School of Business, mentioned that it has been brought to her attention about the course taking patterns for undergraduate students and when the faculty asked their students why they are not taking as many courses as they used to; it was due to the student having to work more to pay off previous student loans before they could take more courses. She asked her academic advisors in her school and stated that they really hadn’t heard anything about that. She also added that Phil Powell, the Chair of the MBA program, stated in the Indy Star that the Indiana economy, besides the housing and automobiles sectors, is actually healthier than the press would suggest.

Craig McDaniel, Herron School of Art, also noted the value of a dollar in comparison to the euro or the British pound is sinking, which means we are a cheaper education now so we can attract more Europeans because of this.

Dr. Queener did request for \$60,000 for dissertation term fellowships in the Graduate Office budget, but she is unaware if it will be added.

Next Meeting

April 22, 2008

Meeting Adjourned 2:39pm