

**Graduate Affairs Committee  
Minutes  
January 27, 2009**

**Present:** Margaret Adamek, Hasan Akay, Beth Berghoff, Paul Carlin, George Edwards, David Ford, Michael Kowolik, Jane Lambert, Paul Lang, Craig McDaniel, Jim Murphy, Jackie O’Palka, Mathew Palakal, Daniel Pesut, Sherry Queener, Simon Rhodes, Lisa Riolo, Sherry Sims, Tony Stamatoplos, Soren Svanum, James Wimbush, & James Williams

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

**Guests:** Carole Kacius

**Approval of Minutes – Dr. Sherry Queener**

**Email:** Beth Young ejmoody at iupui dot edu

**IU Dean’s Report – Dr. James Wimbush**

The AGEP Program has been very successful over the past couple of years. First year brought in 11 students – 7 of whom actually applied for admission to IU. This program is set up on the IUB and IUPUI campuses and most students stay on one of those campuses while a few will do research on both campuses. MIT has also contacted the Graduate School for more information on the set-up for this type of program since it has been so successful. The original funding is through AGEP and will run out after this year. Dean Wimbush mentioned that they have sent another application for AGEP funding but because of restructuring of AGEP NSF has asked that this application be sent back to IU. With this change, this program has been included in the President’s Initiative. Because it is now a President’s Initiative, it would not be limited to just STEM disciplines.

Mark Smith, currently the Chair of Computer Engineering at Purdue University, will be the Graduate School Dean at Purdue beginning on February 17<sup>th</sup>.

This year the Indiana Graduate Education Day will combine with Hoosiers for Higher Education Day and will now be called Hoosiers for Higher Education Indiana Innovative Alliance Graduate Education Day. This will be held at the State House on February 17<sup>th</sup> 8:30 until 3pm.

**Assistant Dean’s Report – Dean Nelson Soto**

On January 10<sup>th</sup>, AGEP had a joint workshop with IUB & IUPUI students – 35 in total – discussing the basics about grant writing and development.

In the future, Nelson may be asking the committees for ideas on a follow-up workshop for these students that could happen in May.

In the weeks ahead, Nelson will be asking a few of the members to help finalize the GEM application

**Associate Dean’s Report – Dr. Sherry Queener**

Dr. Queener has been looking at the necessary budget cuts for the Graduate Office and other funds and finds that we will be able to handle those cuts fine, especially if the additional 10 dollar application fee goes through.

It was also mentioned that fellowship funds should not be affected by these cuts and the Graduate Office should be able to maintain the same services it has in the past.

#### **Graduate Office Report – Mr. David Koerner**

No other reports.

#### **GSO Report – David Koerner**

GSO has created a new information site through OnCourse – all graduate/professional students are opted in unless they inform the GSO otherwise. There has been good feedback from many students about this new informational site. About 23 students have opted out of this communication system out of about 7500. This has been a good alternative from a listserv.

GSO had a chat with the Chancellor last Tuesday. Karen Whitney attended as well.

#### **Committee Business**

##### ***Curriculum Subcommittee – Dr. Jackie O’Palka***

We will share the list from December’s meeting in February.

##### ***Fellowship Subcommittee – Mr. David Koerner***

The committee has reviewed Block Grant Proposals and awarded \$1.3 million in Block Grant money. The notifications will go out this week.

David is currently working on the funding for teaching assistantships and hopes that is resolved by this week so that information may be shared as well.

The University Fellowship Application is out and available through the project site. Deadline for the University Fellowships is 5pm on February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

If you need to be a part of the drop box on the Fellowship Committee project site on OnCourse, send David Koerner an email and he will add you to the site. The committee would like to make decisions by March 7<sup>th</sup> so by April 15<sup>th</sup> we have final list of Fellowship students for next year.

Dr. Queener shared that MS in Forensic Science and PhD in Biostatistics were given \$90,000 this year since they are new programs.

EVP Uday Sukhatme gave Dr. Queener \$100,000 of new money specifically for teaching assistantships. We received requests totaling \$268,000. Dr. Queener has been asked by the Fellowship Committee to decide how to handle this and she will now allocate the \$100,000 over the 5 schools that had those applications so they at least have that money to start with. If money does come later, Dr. Queener will handle that accordingly.

#### **Program Review – Dr. Sherry Queener**

- PhD Minor in Computer Science Proposal
  - 12 Credit Minor with an internal application and rolling admission. Open to PhD students in Informatics, Life Sciences, Medical School Programs, etc.
  - There was a comment to add Engineering in the proposal language.
  - Approved.

- PhD in Epidemiology Proposal
  - There was also a suggestion to add specific language about international market and interaction with the JD students and how the students are prepared for international work.
  - It was suggested that Public Health get in contact with HPER in Bloomington for a possible collaboration. This could help fill in the gaps on faculty resources, where they are needed.
  - The committee would also like more information on the listed faculty in the proposal.
  - Dr. Queener will follow up with Public Health this week on those changes/updates.
- Addiction Graduate Certificate Proposal
  - The content of the modules needs to be clarified.
  - Tabled for clarifications.
- Curriculum Change for MA in Philosophy Program
  - Approved.
- JD/Graduate Certificate in Health Law and Bioethics Proposal
  - Dr. Queener will contact Liberal Arts and IU Graduate School before making a decision.
- Note: Proposals in Progress
  - PhD in Economics
  - MS in Event Tourism

### **Discussion**

- Declaration of prior criminal activity on the graduate application
  - 10 years ago, the undergraduate application added a question concerning prior criminal activity and now the Graduate School is asking for thoughts from faculty on adding it to the Graduate School application.
  - Faculty noted that many of the schools are already taking care of it in the school's application in the action of criminal background checks on their students before or after the application process. Examples: SHRS, Nursing, Social Work, School of Medicine.
  - It was also noted that there is now an urgency to add Veteran questions to match the undergraduate application.
  - It was noted that the details are the key elements to this type of question.
  - This question on an application could not predict crime.
  - Another faculty brought up the question – “If you collect it, what do you do with it?”
  - Some faculty also agreed that students may be discouraged to apply to a graduate program.

### **Old Business**

#### **Next Meeting**

February 24, 2009

**Meeting Adjourned 3:01 pm**