

**Graduate Affairs Committee  
Minutes  
April 28, 2009**

**Present:** Margaret Adamek, Hasan Akay, Paul Carlin, George Edwards, Marilyn Irwin, Jane Lambert, Paul Lang, Craig McDaniel, Joyce Mac Kinnon, Jim Murphy, Mathew Palakal, Jackie O’Palka, Dan Pesut, Sherry Queener, Simon Rhodes, Lisa Riolo, Tony Stamatoplos, & Soren Svanum

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

**Guest:** Gabriel Filippelli

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

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

**Purdue Dean’s Report – Drs. Jon Story & Mark Smith**

Dr. Queener introduced the new Graduate School Dean on the Purdue – West Lafayette campus, Dr. Mark Smith.

Dr. Story mentioned that they are currently working with the regional campuses to streamline the admission processes as well as the electronic thesis.

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

Dean Wimbush was in Washington DC the week before consulting on federal funding among other things. \$15 million dollars in grant money is likely to be released for professional science masters degrees. Details have yet to come on these funds, but Dean Wimbush is hoping to hear something in the coming months.

Dean Wimbush also mentioned the Council of Graduate Schools, which focuses on ways to enhance universities. He noted that the US has fallen behind with the number of graduate students enrolling into STEM graduate programs.

Dean Wimbush thanked the GAC for helpful feedback for the Strategic Plan that was shared at last month’s meeting. The Graduate School Deans are currently working on the plan and hope to release it in a matter of weeks.

Dean Wimbush mentioned an agreement with Peking University regarding a staff exchange, where staff from their university will come to IUPUI and learn more about our university as well as IU staff will visit Peking University to learn more about the administrative side of graduate programs.

IUPUI & IU have agreements with Howard University concerning the student exchanges. The update about students involved with this agreement includes a social science student coming to IUPUI, a possible physics student coming to Bloomington – these students will spend a semester to a year on our campuses.

**Graduate Council Election Process – Dr. David Daleke**

The Graduate Council was created to be an advisory body to the Dean. The last council elections were held in 2003-2004 and the membership based on graduate faculty headcounts, yielding a council of about 45 people. It was decided that the council should now be much smaller – 1 member per 150 graduate faculty rather than 1 per 75 graduate faculty. Based on the graduate faculty population, the total members to be elected by campus would be: 10 – IUB, 9 – IUPUI, 5 – Regional.

Dean Daleke explained that they are prepared to run the elections. Anyone could nominate within their campus. After that, a nominations committee will review all the nominations and put together “head-to-head” elections for units within particular schools where that would be appropriate. All graduate faculty members are able to vote.

Faculty nominations – hope to be out by the end of this week. Hope to run these elections in the next 6 weeks. Goal of June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Dr. Queener asked that everyone pay attention to the nomination process.

Dean Daleke also shared that the meetings are once a month and will be held by video conference. Also, the 3 year term will remain.

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

Dean Soto had a chance to visit Jackson State to interview students and set up pre-contacts before the students came on campus for the summer. He also had the chance to meet with the new Bridges to the Doctorate coordinator, Dr. A. Mohammed.

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

Bridges for the Doctorate Program is up for competitive renewal this year; the recent site visit was very productive. The review is back and the program scored well. This program now has two partners, which are California State at Dominguez Hills & Jackson State. These were very well-received by NIH and we are hoping for renewal for another 4 or 5 years.

The Principles of Graduate Learning have been brought to Trudy Banta’s attention and she is very eager that we take the next step with this document and implement some version with PhD Programs so this data may be available of the NCA review. Dean Jon Story and several other Purdue colleagues shared some of the documentation based upon the Purdue principles for graduate learning. In last month’s meeting, it was discussed that if we are going to this type of assessment, it would make sense to have a process similar to Purdue’s which would mean our Purdue programs would not have to deal with two sets of assessments and our IUPUI data would be internally consistent. We will be talking to individual programs about further details.

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

We will continue with AETNA for the mandatory student health insurance. The medical costs for this year were \$1,666 and the new policy will cost \$1,830, which is an 9.8% increase over the current year. This is less of an increase than we originally expected – this includes an increase in the annual deductible from 250 to 350 for in-network providers, added coverage for contraceptive devices at the IUPUI Health Center only, and added mail-order prescription coverage (90-day supply for the cost of 2 month supply of co-pay.) Dental policy is also included and the current premium \$246.60 and there will be no increase in this premium for next year. The total expected cost: \$2076.60 for mandatory insurance plan through AETNA

### **GSO Report – David Koerner**

Last meeting is April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009 for the year and they are holding elections.

### **Committee Business**

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

The committee plans to meet one more time before the end of this academic year.

The committee will also be looking over the suggested syllabus format at the last meeting of the academic year as well.

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

David noted the acceptance rate for the PhD and Masters Fellowship awards:

PhD – 14 out of 32 – 42.42%  
Masters – 18 out of 24 – 75%

David also noted that the uncommitted funds for 2009-2010 are \$20,736. Also, the block grant money distributed to schools went up 30% this year, which is considerable.

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

- PhD in Applied Earth Sciences – *Approved*
- MS in Event Tourism – *Revisions necessary*
  - Suggestions made by the committee:
    - Make a stronger side-by-side comparison between the IUPUI and IUB degrees –i.e. curriculum overlap, can event tourism stand alone as a degree?
    - Letters of support
    - Course syllabi – help with curriculum overlap concerns.
    - List of major events

### **Discussion**

- Expansion of GAC membership – Dr. Queener would like the committee to think about ideas/concerns about expanding membership.
- Trudy Banta's Office – updates on new programs proposals – yearly updates.

### **Old Business**

- Public Health: Major Code Name Change - *Approved*

### **Next Meeting**

May 26, 2009

**Meeting Adjourned pm**