

Graduate Council
October 25, 2013
208 Thurmond
Minutes

Members present: Jennifer Jordan (COE, chair), Marshall Jones (COE), Megan Fleagle (CVPA, student), Michael Lipscomb (CAS), Melissa Carsten (CBA, vice-chair), Ronnie Faulkner (Dacus), Spiro Shetuni (Dacus), Tom Stanley (CVPA), and Brent Cagle (CAS).

Guests present: Jack DeRochi (Dean, Graduate School) and April Lovegrove

- I. Minutes approved from the Graduate Council meeting on September 13, 2013.
- II. Report from the Dean

Follow-up on discussion from Graduate Faculty on governance. Committee on GA changes; changes that were suggested by various bodies are in the works. Follow-up with being able to use stipend to pay tuition. The way that the system currently works is a little cumbersome. Amanda Maghsoud and Student Financial Services is working on a new plan to treat GAs differently. Final plan will go to ALC and the president by the end of the month. New plan will be in practice next academic year. Need standardized requirements and suggestions. Might roll those out to Dean's Council first to discuss. Students hired under old program may stay in same position or may transfer to new position depending on department decision. Any commitment made in one year will be honored for following year. GA Committee will make recommendation to VPAA based on applications from departments. The drive will be labor and institutional need. Current job descriptions for current positions will need to be submitted to understand what is currently happening. This provides the baseline to compare with new criteria.

"Percentage of work"

Categories are pretty much set. Send last final copy to Marshall (not at last GFC).

Travel scholarships for presentations are up to \$500 or 80% of total costs.

The cultural shift in Tillman is exciting and the Graduate School is at the forefront.

- III. Old Business: Is this new emphasis on low enrolled programs or what about programs that are at capacity and need new faculty lines? Bring the GSO into the discussion when the meetings are held to discuss. We need to take advantage of the GSO to be another voice in the importance of graduate programs.

Faculty conference discussion was a little disappointing. The energy of individual programs is high but yet so independent. Impetus at the faculty governance level is not there in the same way. Since people come to faculty governance when there are issues, the meetings should be based on what needs to be done. Graduate Faculty Senate instead of conference. What is the opposition to this idea? It would take changing the by-laws to create a senate/council/etc. What are peer institutions doing? Talk to Sue and John about what it would do to the larger picture of governance. Since curriculum is voted on electronically, there is one less reason to meet. There is a mailing list based on graduate faculty status. Need to talk to Gina Jones too about

curriculum. There is power in the presentation. Start conversations with colleagues to come up with ideas.

Work around petitions result? Email Gina to get specifics as it is currently held in Rec and Regs. Wording that was passed will be used to update catalog.

Petitions committee meets next, December 3. Informal feedback on continued discussion.

- IV. New business: graduate faculty status requirements. Perception is important on this issue and it is part of the larger faculty governance discussion. The catalog language is funky and needs to be clarified.

Future meeting dates.

December 3, Tuesday, 11:00 am (petitions only): Thurmond 208

February 7, Friday, 2:00 pm: Thurmond 208

April 4, Friday, 2:00 pm: Thurmond 208

April 29, Tuesday, 11:00 am (petitions only): Thurmond 208