**Minutes**

**Graduate Programs Council**

**March 5th, 2014**

**Attendance:** L. DeMarsico, M. Hall, S. Rao, S. Roe (Chair), E. Schultes, C. Lindberg, L. Ortiz, K. Fisher, B. Leake

**I. Open testimony regarding the Comprehensive Exam Policy**

 The first hour of the GPC meeting was scheduled for the receipt of campus testimony on the proposed revisions to the Graduate Comprehensive Examination Policy. There were no campus members in attendance wishing to offer testimony on the policy. However, the GPC members did utilize a portion of the first hour to review and discuss testimony that had been submitted electronically.

**II. Review minutes from previous meeting**

The minutes of February 19, 2014 were approved with minor revisions.

**II. Report from Graduate Studies**

Lisa DeMarsico reported that The Office of Graduate Studies was still in the midst of processing admission applications due to the weather-related extension of the February 1, 2014 application deadline. She also stated that the Office has been solidifying plans for the annual Graduate Student Appreciation Week. The week of April 7, 2014 is designated to honor graduate students. The very popular “cupcakes & conversation” event will be 4-5pm on Wednesday, April 9th in EDUC 110. As was the case last year, there will be a raffle for a range of items including *Kindle Tablets.*  DeMarsico asked everyone to please encourage their graduate students to attend.

**III. Old Business -**

* **The Proposed Graduate Comprehensive Examination Policy**

The members of the GPC read and discussed the Campus testimony that had been at received via Qualtrics survey regarding the proposed Comprehensive Exam policy. Since a second open forum would be held from 4-5p.m. that day to gather more testimony, no further actions on this item were taken during this meeting.

* **Proposed Survey of Graduate Students**

The members of the GPC continued to work at refining a survey on potential interest in alternative models (e.g. Saturday schedule; Blended Learning; etc.) for graduate course offerings. The discussion also included attempts to clarify the target survey population (e.g. current students; students who expressed interest but then matriculated elsewhere; etc.) and the preferred timing for conducting the survey (e.g. at open house events; at orientations; etc.). Although the pros, cons and logistics of these points generated a lively discussion, no final decisions were made. It was decided to continue the discussion of this topic at the next GPC meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Brenda H. Leake