Minutes

Graduate Programs Council

October 16, 2013

Attendance: M. Hall, B. Leake, C. Lindberg, K. Fisher, M. Blichard, L. Ortiz-Villarelle, D. Hallback, E. Jensen & E. Schultes

Excused: S. Roe

**Minutes** from 10/2/13 were approved

**Comprehensive exam policy:** GPC discussed the process for collecting testimony on the Comprehensive Exam policy. It was decided that:

* The policy would be sent to the Graduate Coordinators and the Graduate Students via the list serve to solicit electronic testimony
* In addition, GPC would hold an open forum in its upcoming meeting and invite stakeholders to provide testimony at that forum. Stakeholders who were interested in providing personal testimony could attend the open forum. Students or faculty members who could not make it to the open forum could provide electronic testimony.
* It was decided that first testimony would be sought on the comprehensive exam policy and then the non-enrollment policy would follow

**New Undergraduate Scheduling Grid:** GPC discussed the old and the proposed new scheduling grids in order to provide testimony. Following are the highlights of the discussion:

* GPC members expressed concern for the Wednesday 4th hour grid scheduled between 5pm-5:50pm in the Pride scheduling grid. The concern was that this would affect the availability of rooms for graduate classes
* In addition, a concern was expressed that this would also impact the exam schedule for graduate classes
* If classes begin at 8:00am currently there is no IT support or other kinds of support in case a faculty member should need the support. IT support should be provided
* A concern was also expressed that making it a 8:30am-5:30am day will move the graduate classes to begin further later in the day. Starting graduate classes later will be hard for students who are working and have a long day.
* When Wednesday morning class is available, it opens up more time for advising in the later part of the day
* In the Pride grid, no time for 4th hour for a Wednesday morning class

Whatever the decision, GPC would like a 5pm start for graduate classes.

Respectfully submitted

Shri Rao