

Date: February 22, 2012
To: Members of UAMS Graduate Council and All Other Graduate Faculty
From: Dr. Helen Beneš, Chair
Subject: Graduate Council Meeting Minutes – February 16, 2012

Members Present: Drs. Abraham, Basnakian, Borders, Crook, Ferguson, Goodwin, Gottschall, Gray, Hendrickson, Ms. Butler, Ms. Hutton, Ms. McDaniel and Dr. Chowdhury substituting for Dr. Simmen.

Members Absent: Drs. Krukowski, Post and Simmen.

Non-voting Members Present: Dr. Robert E. McGehee, Jr., Dr. Kristen Sterba and Ms. Pattie Hamilton

Non-voting Members Absent: Mr. Jackie McRoberts

Attendees:

Dr. Beneš called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the December 15, 2011 meeting were approved.

2. Administrative Items

Dr. McGehee announced that he received notification that the Genetic Counseling Program received a full three-year accreditation. Dr. McGehee thanked everyone who helped with the site visit.

Dr. McGehee stated that Pam McCullough left the Graduate School and a new employee, Chris Wilson was hired. Chris Wilson submitted his resignation for another job and Dr. McGehee is in the process of finding a replacement.

Dr. McGehee announced that the Nursing Science Ph.D. program and the Communication Sciences and Disorders program assessment site visits are scheduled for April 1 and April 2, respectively. Dr. McGehee stated due to conflicts in Spring schedules, he may change the assessments site visits in the future to January or February.

Dr. McGehee announced the Robert E. McGehee, Jr. Inaugural Lecture will be held March 8 at 4:00 p.m. with guest speaker, Dr. Bert O'Malley. A reception will follow; and Dr. McGehee invited the members of the Graduate Council to attend.

Dr. McGehee stated the Graduate School Student Handbook will not be printed this year. It will only be available online. As there was some discussion about having a printed handbook, it was decided to postpone further discussion until after seeing how the online version works for students and faculty.

Report from Dr. Sterba

Dr. Sterba announced that the Ph.D. comic movie will be shown on Thursday, April 12th in the Rayford Auditorium. The exact time will be announced at a later date.

Report from the Graduate Student Association

Ms. McDaniel reported the following:

1. Marathon
 - a. Jerseys for the Marathon have been ordered
 - b. Sponsorships generated enough money to fully reimburse graduate students for their entry fees with a bit extra for the shirts
 - c. Dr. McGehee generously paid for the jerseys for the graduate students and medical students
 - d. Jerseys will be picked up next Monday or Tuesday and distribution will begin
2. ASG representative
 - a. Revisions to the ASG constitution allocated an additional representative for the Graduate School
 - b. The ASG has divided into committees, our third rep has not selected a committee yet, but the other two are on the "Student Health Clinic" and "Student Health Insurance" committees.
3. Habitat for Humanity
 - a. Service project March 17th
4. Crawfish Boil is planned for some time this spring.
5. Canoe Trip
 - a. Saturday, June 2
6. Science Fair Judges
 - a. Graduate Students judged Science Fair projects at Pulaski Heights Jr. and Central High Schools.

1. Old Business

None

2. New Business

Dr. McGehee stated that Commencement Marshals are needed. The following Graduate Council members volunteered.

Ph.D. Marshal- Dr. Wayne Gray

M.S. Marshal- Ms. Terri Hutton

Upramp Marshal- Dr. Howard Hendrickson

3. Reports from Committees

Assessment Committee – Dr. Crook stated that the Committee met to discuss revisions to the “Regulations for Preparing Theses and Dissertations”. The Committee discussed creating templates for forms to omit extra work and make documents more uniform. The Committee also discussed developing a checklist for students. The following items were discussed and the Committee would like feedback from the Graduate Council at the next meetings: 1) copyright issues, 2) arranging dissertation or thesis chapters around student publications, 3) defining the graduate student’s exact role in the research reported in the thesis/dissertation. After much discussion, it was decided to table the discussion until the next meeting.

Curriculum Committee – Dr. Gray stated that the Committee recommended for approval one course application: MBIM 6214/6224, Advanced Microbiology and Immunology. The Council approved the recommendation.

Faculty Committee –Dr. Ferguson reported for Dr. Souder, Chair, and the Committee recommended two faculty applications for approval, Dr. Douglas Murphy, Speech Pathology and Dr. Sharda Singh, Pharmacology. The Council approved these recommendations. Dr. Ferguson stated that the Committee reviewed an application for Michael Morris and recommended he reapply after completing his Ph.D.

Academic Senate- Dr. Hendrickson stated that the Graduate Council needed to nominate a replacement or renominate him for the position on the Academic Senate. The Graduate Council nominated Dr. Hendrickson to serve another two-year term. Dr. McGehee will send an email to Dr. Tom Kelly confirming Dr. Hendrickson as the selected nominee.

4. Announcements

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm.