

Date: May 13, 2011

To: Members of UAMS Graduate Council and All Other Graduate Faculty

From: Dr. Helen Beneš, Chair

Subject: Graduate Council Meeting Minutes – April 21, 2011

Members Present: Drs. Basnakian, Borders, Crook, Ferguson, Goodwin, Gottschall, Gray, Hendrickson, Krukowski, Post, Simmen, Ms. Butler and Ms. Watts.

Members Absent: Drs. Abraham, Das and Ms. Hutton.

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

Non-voting Members Absent:

Attendees:

Dr. Beneš called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 18, 2011 meeting were approved.

2. Administrative Items

Dr. McGehee reported there are many dissertation defenses being presented. Dr. McGehee encouraged members to attend the defenses. A list is on the Graduate School website.

Dr. McGehee reminded everyone that Commencement and the Graduate School Brunch will be held on May 21. He asked everyone to attend.

Dr. McGehee stated that Drs. Sterba, Kelly and he visited Jackson State University this week to collaborate with them for recruitment of graduate students to UAMS. Dr. McGehee suggested that some of our faculty visit the Jackson State campus to present seminars and would like Jackson State to bring some of their faculty to our campus, as well.

Dr. McGehee reported that the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff received approval by the ADHE (Arkansas Dept. of Higher Education) for the Ph.D. program in Aquaculture.

Report from Dr. Sterba

Dr. Sterba reported that she attended Jackson State University to discuss collaborating with the faculty and administrators for recruitment of graduate students from underrepresented groups.

Dr. Sterba stated that there are currently three entering IMSD students for this summer of 2011. Dr. Sterba reported there are more available spaces.

Report from the Graduate Student Association

Ms. Watts reported on the GSA events, as listed below:

1. **Scheduled Events for Spring Semester**
 - April 30 – Crawfish Boil
 - May 5-8 – GSA Officer Elections
 - The GSA is collecting nominations at this time.
 - June 4 – Spring Canoe Trip- Dr. McGehee suggested including the undergraduate students involved in the Summer Research Program (SURF).
 - Doughnut Wednesdays: Monthly
2. **Spring Semester Service Project Update**
 - Volunteered with Habitat for Humanity 4/2
 - About 15-20 graduate students met Saturday morning in Jacksonville to deconstruct an old building for Habitat for Humanity. Students volunteered from 8 until about 12:30 PM. Ms. Watts received feedback from the coordinator that they were among the most productive, hard working group he's seen.
3. **Health Clinic/Fees**
 - The GSA officers have discussed polling students at previous meetings, but Ms. Watts plans to initiate a survey at the next GSA meeting, which is to be held the week of April 18, 2011. The information collected with this survey is anticipated to provide useful information about the utility of the clinic and appropriateness of its associated fees.
4. **Graduate Student Teaching Committee** – headed by Laura Broederdorf
 - Laura is working with Dr. McGehee and Dr. Hill at UCA to execute the plan, which is to have qualified students in their second year of graduate school or beyond teach evening classes at UCA over the summer. In the fall, there may be opportunities for students to teach at UAMS.
The seminar with Lydia McDonald “**Effective Teaching Techniques**” on Monday, April 25, 2011, Noon-1 pm in Rayford Auditorium is cancelled.
5. **Recycling Update**
 - Steven Smith, the GSA Recycling Consultant, has requested funds to purchase two new plastic recycling bins for paper recycling. The GSA officers have approved this request and plan to allocate funds for this purchase.
6. **Treasury Report**
 - Balance as of 3/11: \$2505.91

1. Old Business

None

2. New Business

Dr. Hendrickson stated that if departments have undergraduate students working in their labs, the ACS (American Chemical Society) has support available for travel to ACS meetings. Anyone interested may contact him.

3. Reports from Committees

Assessment Committee – Dr. Hendrickson reported that the Assessment Committee has completed the interviews with the Cellular Physiology and Biophysics program. Steve Post is preparing a final report for the Assessment Committee. The Committee had no issues with this graduate program.

Dr. Hendrickson stated that interviews are scheduled with the Toxicology and Pharmacology Programs during the week of May 4th. Leanne Lefler will prepare the Toxicology report. Tina Crook is preparing the Pharmacology report.

Dr. Hendrickson reported that the Committee received the Clinical Nutrition Program report. Rebecca Krukowski will interview the students and faculty on May 2nd.

Curriculum Committee – Dr. Gray reported that the Curriculum Committee reviewed and recommended one course application for approval, PHYO 5012, Protein Crystallography. The Committee asked for three minor revisions as follows: 1. pre-requisites should be defined; 2. student evaluations should be defined; and 3. textbooks or reading material should be defined. The Council approved this recommendation.

Faculty Committee – In Dr. Abraham's absence, Dr. Simmen reported that the Faculty Committee reviewed and recommended one application for Graduate Faculty appointment: Dr. Seongkum Heo, of Nursing Science. The Council approved this recommendation.

4. Announcements- none

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.