

Date: June 5, 2009

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

From: Ms. Terri Hutton, Chair

Subject: Graduate Council Meeting Minutes – May 21, 2009

Members Present: Drs. Abraham, Benes, Chowdhury, Das, Gottschall, Hinson, Soderberg, Mr. Bruce Haas, Dr. Alesia Ferguson substituting for Dr. Cranmer, Ms. Amanda Dawson substituting for Dr. Hays and Dr. Marjan Boerma substituting for Dr. Hendrickson.

Members Absent: Drs. Cranmer, Greene, Hays, Hendrickson, Mays, Paniagua, Wessinger, and Ms. Kimberly Reynolds

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

Non-voting Members Absent:

Attendee: None

Ms. Hutton called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April 16, 2009 meeting were approved.

2. Administrative Items

Dr. McGehee reported there was a record number of Ph.D. graduates this year. Dr. McGehee stated the Commencement Ceremony and the Graduate School Brunch were outstanding.

Dr. McGehee announced there was one outside faculty member for a dissertation committee for his review for Dr. Robert Bryan for Biny Joseph in the Interdisciplinary Toxicology program.

Dr. McGehee reported on a request from the Occupational and Environmental Health (OEH) program to establish a Graduate Certificate Program in OEH. A copy of the formal Letter of Notification to the Arkansas Department of Higher Education was presented and unanimously approved. The program requires 12 hours already currently being taught in the MS program and all credits earned in the certificate program will be directly applicable to

the MS program. The documentation will now go through Vice Chancellor Milne's office for submission to ADHE and subsequent approval by the UA Board of Trustees.

Dr. McGehee reported on two course changes needed in Gross Anatomy eliminating the need for students to receive incompletes in a non-traditional semester course. Due the integration of the freshman medical curriculum, Gross Anatomy (a COM course graduate students are eligible for) is now offered from October through March. Students enroll for one 8 hour course and are given incompletes in the Fall semester until completion in March. The requested change breaks the course into two four hour courses allowing students to receive grades for each section. The new courses are Gross Anatomy I (NBDS 5014) and II (NBDS 5024). The curriculum for the course is unchanged. The Council unanimously approved this recommendation.

Report from Dr. Sterba

Dr. Sterba was late due to another meeting so Dr. McGehee reported she created a UAMS Graduate School Alumni and Friends Facebook page for graduates. Current students and faculty who are interested in joining the group are also welcome. Dr. McGehee announced she also started a UAMS Graduate School blog. The blog will be more informal than the website and will be updated weekly with news and events. A link to the blog can be found on the Graduate School homepage. Dr. McGehee announced Dr. Sterba will be attending the SAEOPP McNair Conference in Atlanta, GA June 26-28, 2009. Dr. McGehee reported there are 4 students in the inaugural IMSD class stated we will begin the transition program for these students June 1.

Report from Graduate Student Association

In M. Reynolds absence, Ms. Hutton reported the GSA has had a great and very active year. The Lake Ouachita trip was moved to May 30th due to a rain out. Ms. Hutton stated the GSA next year will continue the successful events and cut those that did not work as well. The successful events include doughnuts, movies and pizza. Those that were less successful were bowling and the initial welcome back party at West End. Ms. Hutton reported the GSA is considering cooperating with the IBS program for a welcome back party for better turn out than either can get alone. Ms. Hutton announced the 2009-2010 officers for GSA are Kim Reynolds- President, Kevin Kim- Vice President, Sherri Smart- Secretary, Jennifer Watts- Treasurer, Shannon Rose and Omar Rahal- ASG Representatives, Steven Smith- Recycling Coordinator and Katharine Whitney- Webmaster.

1. Old Business

None

2. New Business

3. Reports from Committees

Assessment Committee – Dr. Das reported the Committee did not meet.

Faculty Committee – Dr. Soderberg reported there were no applications for review. There was no meeting held.

Curriculum Committee –Dr. Paniagua reported there were no applications for review. There was no meeting held.

Graduate Student Research Funds –Dr. McGehee reported five applications were recommended for funding for Minho Chae, Bioinformatics, Matina Balou, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Natara Andrews, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Kevin Kim, Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences and Christian Simmons, Physiology and Biophysics. Funding will be transferred after July 1 in the amount of \$2,000.00 each.

The meeting adjourned at 4:42.