

**Date:** May 9, 2012

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

**From:** Dr. Helen Beneš, Chair

**Subject:** Graduate Council Meeting Minutes – May 3, 2012

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

Members Absent: Dr. Ferguson and Ms. Butler

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. Madan Dey

Dr. Beneš called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 16, 2011 meeting were approved.

2. Administrative Items

Dr. McGehee welcomed Dr. Dey from the Aquaculture Program at UAPB. Dr. McGehee stated the Chancellor at UAPB had resigned and an interim Chancellor was selected while a search is on for a replacement. Dr. McGehee stated that he is a member of the UAPB search committee. Dr. McGehee stated seventeen faculty members were unanimously approved for the Aquaculture Program at UAPB. Dr. McGehee announced there was a new faculty application for review for Dr. Yushun Chen at UAPB. The Graduate Council approved his application.

Dr. McGehee stated that a new Academic Affairs fee will be charged to students beginning Fall 2012. Students taking one to four credit hours will pay \$125.00 for each fall and each spring. Students taking five or more hours will pay \$250.00 for each fall and each spring. The Board of Trustees approved the fee addition. Discussion followed.

Dr. McGehee stated that the Spring Reception was well attended and many awards were given. Photographs were taken and sent to the students. Dr. McGehee reminded everyone that beginning

with the Fall semester that there should not be any classes held during the Research Induction Ceremony, the Graduate School Holiday and Spring Receptions or on Career Day.

Dr. McGehee thanked everyone who attended the inaugural Dr. Robert E. McGehee Lecture.

Dr. McGehee stated there are several new graduate programs in a development stage at UAMS. They are:

1. a Ph.D. program in Pharmaceutical Sciences
2. a M.S. degree in Health Sciences for Nursing Science Ph.D. students who opt out of the Ph.D. program.
3. a Ph.D. program in Epidemiology

Dr. McGehee stated that the Director of the Joint UALR/UAMS Bioinformatics Graduate Program stepped down and there is a possibility that the Ph.D. portion of the program will be moved to the UAMS campus.

Dr. McGehee announced that the Graduate School received ADHE approval for the Certificate in Regulatory Sciences program.

Dr. McGehee stated that he received the assessment report for the Communication Sciences and Disorders program from the outside reviewers. Any recommendations will be addressed. When the assessment is approved by the Joint Graduate Council and the UAMS Graduate Council, it will be sent to Dr. Heard and then to the System Office for approval before forwarding to the ADHE for approval.

Dr. McGehee stated that he is waiting for the final report from assessment of the Nursing Science Ph.D. program and will bring it to the Graduate Council for approval before sending it to Dr. Heard. Dr. Heard will then send it to the System Office for approval before forwarding it to the ADHE for approval.

#### Report from Dr. Sterba

Dr. Sterba announced the first Graduate Student Teaching of Central Arkansas (GSTCA) Symposium will be held May 22. There are currently 60 registrants including basic science graduate students, post docs, and Ph.D. students in HSRE and CSD. She hopes to have this event every year in the Spring semester.

#### Report from the Graduate Student Association

Ms. McDaniel reported the following:

- GSA Officer elections- Many of the officers from this year are remaining, though there is some rearranging of positions.
- GSA Constitution- Updating to better reflect technology and organization of other campus groups.
- GSTCA Symposium- May 22, 2012

- Crawfish Boil/ End of the semester party- May 12<sup>th</sup>
- Canoe trip- Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> In years past there have been more people signing up than actually attended. To respond to this, we are:
  1. Reserving only the number of canoes that have been utilized for the last two years, thus limiting the spaces. We will maintain a waiting list to fill the slots of those canceling.
  2. Increase the student deposit, this trip still comes at a significant savings to the students, but we hope it will prevent people who are not serious about attending from signing the roster.
- There were 75 students who participated in the Little Rock Marathon. The GSA solicited sponsors for the event. Jerseys were purchased by the Graduate School and the sponsorship provided enough money to reimburse all the Graduate School students their registration fees.
- The GSA is trying to get representation on the Academic Senate.
- The student health insurance plan is increasing in the fall with better benefits to the students. There will also be an improved payment plan included.

1. Old Business

None

2. New Business

None

3. Reports from Committees

*Assessment Committee* – Dr. Crook reported the committee needs clarification on their role in updating the dissertation/theses document. Dr. McGehee requested that they meet with Pam McCullough, and possibly Nancy Clark of the UAMS Library, and him if he is available to discuss the project. Dr. Post is on the committee; he stated there are concerns about the copyright laws. Dr. McGehee will review the copyright laws and report at the next meeting.

Dr. Crook reported on another issue related to student research that was brought to her attention after the last meeting by Becky Butler. Ms. Butler’s concerns are related to data storage and the security of that data – specifically data collected by students stored on an UAMS computer or personal laptop. After a student graduates, controlling the data becomes an issue if it was stored on student’s computer. Dr. McGehee stated this should probably fall under the Vice Chancellor for Research not the Graduate Council.

*Curriculum Committee* – Dr. Gray stated there were no course forms for review.

*Faculty Committee* –Ms. Hutton reported for Dr. Souder, Chair, that the Committee recommended five faculty applications for approval: Dr. Feifei Wei, Biostatistics; Dr. Stephen Erickson, Biostatistics; Dr. Mathias Brochhausen, Bioinformatics; Dr. Josh Phelps, Clinical Nutrition; and Dr.

Aime Franco, Cellular Physiology and Molecular Biology. The Council approved these recommendations.

*Academic Senate-* Dr. Hendrickson stated that Dr. Larry Suva is the incoming Chair and that he wanted everyone to know that the Senate is here to increase dialog across campus. The forum with the Chancellor was very well received. There are runoffs for some of the elections and Dr. Steven Post is the new Chair Elect.

#### 4. Announcements

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm.