



Date: October 28, 2015

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

From: Dr. Sam Atcherson, Chair

Subject: Graduate Council Meeting Minutes – October 15, 2015

Members Present: Drs. Dan Voth, Mark Mennemeier, Mari Davidson, Tina Crook, Patricia Wight, Paul Prather, Lee Ann Macmillian-Crowe (for Eric Peterson), Seongkum Heo, Gunnar Boysen, Antino Allen and Mr. Wezley Griffin

Members Absent: Drs. Sam Atcherson, Kristen Sterba, Andrew James

Non-voting Members: Drs. Robert McGehee, Ms. Allyson Douglass

**Administrative Items:**

Dr. McGehee updated everyone regarding the Graduate Program in Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences. GPIBS is pending final approval from the ADHE and the Board of Trustees, but the AHEC Board had approved it.

Dr. McGehee discussed the IBS review that was held on October 14<sup>th</sup>. The review went well, and the committee was pleased with the program. The two external reviewers are currently working on their report. Once the report is complete, Dr. McGehee will write a letter accompanying the report to the Academic Assessment committee and ADHE.

Dr. McGehee also discussed the IMSD External Advisory Committee meeting held on October 13. The review went very well, and the committee members will submit individual reports to UAMS for review.

Dr. Mari Davidson updated the council on IPE. Drs. Davidson and Sterba are both members of the Curricular Pillar Team. There are 7 different activities that are interspersed among the 3 phases. The Graduate Council had decided to initially require students who entered fall 2015 to complete the Exposure workshop and 1st Bridge activity. She described what some of the other colleges are doing for activities, and the committee was concerned that some of these activities would not be appropriate for Graduate School students. She wanted feedback on what activities Graduate School students would participate in. She suggested that students could possibly judge posters at the UAMS Student Research Day in the Spring as a Bridge activity. Dr. Davidson requested that everyone send her emails with what students could and currently are doing that could count for future activities. She would then compile a list with all activities and submit it to the IPE office. Dr. McGehee asked her to talk to the Program Directors at the meeting in November. It was decided that the



Graduate School should have something in writing listing what phases Graduate Students would be required to complete for IPE.

**Report from the Graduate Student Association:**

GSA President Wezley Griffin stated that there had been steady attendance at events. Doughnut day continues to be successful. The GSA ordered 40+ more shirts which were sold to students. The GSA will be hosting the Thanksgiving Potluck on November 17<sup>th</sup> and will be sending information about it out soon.

He said that several students had approached the GSA regarding student fees and the increases that keep happening with no real explanation. Students were also wondering if there could be a payment plan in place for the fees that are associated with their accounts every semester so that the majority of their first stipend check would not be going to paying fees. Dr. McGehee suggested that students speak with the Associated Student Government and join as a united front and set up an appointment to talk to the Provost. Dr. McGehee offered to help them schedule the meeting if needed.

**Old Business:**

No old business.

**New Business:**

**Reports of Committees**

Curriculum Committee:

The Curriculum committee received a course change form, but since the deadline for the spring term was October 1<sup>st</sup>, Dr. McGehee stated that there was no rush to approve.

Faculty Committee:

The faculty committee still needs to choose a chairman.

Academic Senate:

Dr. Dan Voth discussed the implementation of the Research Shared Services initiative. He stated that this was being implemented more slowly than initially planned. Basic Sciences would begin their implementation during Winter 2016. He urged all council members to attend the Academic Senate meeting at the end of October regarding this and to voice their opinions about it.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.