

**Date: December 7, 2010**

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

**From: Dr. Helen Beneš, Chair**

**Subject: Graduate Council Meeting Minutes – November 18, 2010**

Members Present: Drs. Abraham, Basnakian, Ferguson, Goodwin, Gottschall, Gray, Hays, Krukowski, Post, Simmen, Ms. Butler, Ms. Hutton, Mr. Kim and Dr. Marjan Boerma substituting for Dr. Hnedrickson.

Members Absent: Drs. Borders, Das, Hendrickson

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

Non-voting Members Absent: Mr. Jackie McRoberts

Attendees: None

Dr. Beneš called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 23, 2010 meeting were approved.

2. Administrative Items

Dr. McGehee announced that a Search Committee was formed to find a replacement for Dr. Milne as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

Dr. McGehee also mentioned that the search for a new Dean of the College of Nursing is on-going; he is the chair of the committee.

Dr. McGehee stated that the reception for International Education Week was well attended.

Dr. McGehee announced that the GSA-sponsored Thanksgiving potluck was held and over 120 people were in attendance. He thanked Kevin Kim for his leadership. Dr. McGehee stated Kevin will be defending his Ph.D. dissertation and taking a leave of absence soon. The GSA is currently looking for a replacement to complete his term as President of the GSA.

In response to a question by a Graduate Council member, Dr. McGehee explained how the Chancellor's Teaching Awardees were selected.

### Report from Dr. Sterba

Dr. Sterba reported that Career Day was a success. There were 105 attendees, including 53 undergraduate students and faculty from 13 colleges and universities. 45 UAMS graduate students and postdocs attended.

Dr. Sterba asked if the faculty have any suggestions for graduate development/career seminars for the spring, to please email them to her. One topic was suggested: balancing career and family.

Dr Sterba stated that her recruitment activities are beginning to wrap up for the semester. She will attend the Southwest and Southeast Regional ACS meeting in New Orleans, LA in December and present a seminar at ASU. For a list of recruitment visits, please visit the Graduate School website.

Dr. Sterba announced that the Graduate School Holiday reception will be held December 9, 2010.

### Report from the Graduate Student Association

Mr. Kim reported on the events of the GSA as listed below:

1. Activities carried out since the last report:  
**Canoe trip:** 9/25 (Saturday) 23 participants  
**Movie Night:** 10/6 (Wednesday) 20+ participants  
**Swing dance at ACH:** 10/18 (Monday) 1 participant  
**Paintball Wars:** 10/23 (Saturday) 20 participants  
**Halloween party at Vino's:** 10/22 (Friday) 60+ participants  
**Thanksgiving Potluck in the atrium:** 11/18 (Thursday)
2. IM flag football teams: Graduate School's women's IM team, the "Victorious Secret", are champions!! IM soccer underway.
3. GSA recycling team has been assembled. (Steven Smith)
4. GSA Teaching opportunities and communications held a first meeting, 11/1. (Laura Broederdorf)
5. Fall pool tournament: ongoing. Pool table maintenance is being taken care of.
6. Graduate Student Council: assembled, with first meeting on 11/1/10. 15 attended, 10 graduate programs represented.

Issues addressed: GSA blood drive (coordinator: Amna Malik); Doughnut Wednesday locations (ACH, GSA student lounge, Grad school admin. office); student's access to Biomed I and II buildings.

**Goals:** The UAMS Graduate Student Council aims to serve as an advocate for graduate students, a liaison between the Graduate Student Association (GSA) and the programs represented on the council, and to assist the GSA leadership in promoting activities that will impact the largest number of students.

**Objectives:** The objectives of the Graduate Student Council are to enhance the exchange of ideas, concerns, views, and news; maintain dialogue; and promote participation of graduate students.

**Graduate Student Council (GSC) Membership:** GSC is a body of representative(s) from each of the Graduate School programs. There will be one graduate student representative per

program. If there is more than one person who is interested in accepting the position, it will be left up to the program to decide who will represent them

**Meetings:** Meetings will be called by the GSA President once a quarter or as he or she determines. The meetings will provide a setting for the exchange of news, concerns, ideas, and suggestions amongst and between graduate school programs and GSA.

**Graduate Student Council Representatives (13/17 – as of 11-16-10)**

**Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Zach Waldrip

Matt Reynolds

**Bioinformatics**

Shraddha Thakka

Karl Walker

**Clinical Nutrition**

Brittney Timmerman

**Communication Sciences & Disorders**

Matina Balou

**Genetic Counseling**

Julie Kaylor

**Pharmaceutical Sciences**

(vacant)

**Health Promotion & Prevention Research**

(vacant)

**Health Systems Research**

Sharla Smith

Michael Preston

**IBS**

Nandini Sakurikar

Will Atchley

Shannon Rose

Jaclyn Daniels

**Interdisciplinary Toxicology**

Lisa Cortez

**Microbiology and Immunology**

Ashley Scott

Douglas Ryan

Joey Graham

**Neurobiology & Developmental Sciences**

Jennifer Watts

**Nursing Science**

(vacant)

**Occupational & Environmental Health**

(vacant)

## **Pharmacology**

Neil Detweiler

## **Cellular Physiology & Molecular Biophysics**

Ahmed (John Jayroe)

## **Pharmaceutical Evaluation and Policy**

Pravinkumar Patil

7. Upcoming events of the GSA:

**Service Project:** (Kali Chatham) Christmas Party at Our House – Monday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>. Winter Wonderland for the children at Our House (<http://www.ourhouseshelter.org/>). Our House welcomed the idea and has suggested that the GSA host a Winter Wonderland on **Monday, December 6th from 2-5 PM**. They anticipate about 15-20 children attending. We will put together a schedule of activities and will most likely need volunteers from **1:30PM-5:30PM**. Very basic activities, fun and not too much of a time commitment. (We would also welcome a Santa, elves, or other holiday characters!)

1. Old Business

None

2. New Business

None

3. Reports from Committees

Assessment Committee – Dr. Hendrickson was not present. There was no report.

Curriculum Committee – Dr. Gray reported that the committee reviewed the following items: 1. Proposal to change BSN-PhD course requirements. As requested by the Nursing School, the committee approved deletion of the requirement for NUSC5003 and NUSC5013. In addition, the committee approved dropping the following courses, NUSC5052, NUSC5111, and NUSC5121. 2. Proposal to add a course, entitled “Built Environment and Public Health”, in the Health Promotion and Prevention Program. The committee approved this proposal. Descriptions for both proposals were given by Dr. Rebecca Krukowski (HPPR) and Dr. Julia Goodwin (NPhD). The Graduate Council approved these recommendations.

Faculty Committee – Dr. Abraham reported that the Committee reviewed and recommended four faculty applications for approval: Dr. Tina Crook, Clinical Nutrition; Dr. Brendan Stack, Physiology and Biophysics; Dr. Aline Andres, Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences; and Dr. Kartik Shankar, Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences. The Council approved all of these recommendations.

Dr. Abraham reported on his meeting with members from other graduate programs regarding the proposal for students Graduating with Distinction. It was decided that there isn't enough uniformity across programs to set criteria for implementation; and it was agreed that the proposal

isn't practical. After much discussion in the Graduate Council, this proposal was tabled until the next meeting.

4. Announcements

Dr. Boerma reminded everyone that Student Research Day is a campus wide event and asked all to attend; the contact person is Linda D. Williams.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.