




Date: November 20, 2014
To: Members of the UAMS Graduate Council and All Other Graduate Faculty
From: Dr. Sam Atcherson, Chair 
Subject: Graduate Council Meeting Minutes-November 20, 2014

Members Present: Helen Benes, Gunnar Boysen, Tina Crook, Mari Davidson, Holly Felix, Barbara Fuhrman, Seongkum Heo, Andy James, Paul Prather, Dan Voth, Patty Wight, Ms. LeeAnn King and Ms. Lori Dean substituting for Tiffany Lepard

Members Absent: Drs. Leavonne Pulley, Sam Atcherson, Howard Hendrickson

Non-voting Members: Drs. Robert McGehee and Kristen Sterba

Attendee: Ms. Pam McCullough

Administrative Items

The approval of the October minutes was tabled until the December meeting.

Dr. McGehee reported that the College of Medicine recently had a LCME accrediting visit site visit. The initial indications are that the site visit went well under direction of Dr. James Graham. The final outcome will be announced in March, 2015.

The GSA sponsored Thanksgiving potluck was well attended and Dr. McGehee thanked Lee Ann King and the GSA for making the event successful.

Dr. McGehee announced that the three programs would be reviewed this year, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Microbiology and Immunology, and Neurobiology and Developmental Sciences. UAMS reviews program on a seven year cycle, however ADHE requires reviews every 10 years. Self study for IBS is ready. IBS reviewed last year and the self-study is ready.

Dr. McGehee reminded everyone that the Winter Reception is on December 4th. All students who will graduate in December will be recognized at the reception.

Dr. McGehee stated that there has been a loss of flexibility with the implementation of the Office of the University Registrar. The centralized registrar's office has decided the deadline to submit dissertations for December graduates will be December 12th. All registration is now processed through the Office of the University Registrar.



Dr. McGehee announced Mary Ryan is retiring as Director of the Library and Jan Hart will be the new Director. Dr. Vic Robbins in the Division of Laboratory Animal Medicine is also retiring. A retirement party is being planned by the division director, Dr. Mildred Randolph. Dr. McGehee will send an announcement when the plans have been finalized.

Dr. McGehee plans to hold a special meeting for program directors on December 2nd to discuss the guidelines for the inter-prof education program. Ms. Lori Dean will discuss how Graduate School programs can work with IPE.

Report from Dr. Sterba

Dr. Sterba updated the Council on the Student Information System. Plans currently are for admissions to go live in 2016. As a result of the delayed admissions implementation, the Graduate School will continue to follow the same business processes used in previous years. The system is expected to be implemented in time for admissions for fall 2016 and registration for fall 2016. Dr. Sterba stated that there was a record attendance of 170 at this year's Career Day event.

Report from Graduate Student Association

Lee Ann King reported that the GSA potluck was a success. She stated that one of the goals of the GSA is to promote research and get students more involved in community service. They are planning opportunities for Graduate School students to become involved in Habitat for Humanity, the Museum of Discovery and judging at local science fairs. The GSA recently provided students a fun, relaxing event at Playtime Pizza.

A GSA symposium is planned for January or February, 2015. The symposium will provide a platform for the professional development of students and provide faculty input. The plan includes inviting Graduate School students to submit abstracts and to clearly state the hypothesis to faculty who serve on the symposium panel. Students who are not selected to present their abstracts would present posters. Dr. Suva has agreed to offer a \$500 prize. The symposium would provide students the opportunity to better prepare for conferences. The event would be sponsored by the GSA and faculty will be invited to judge. Dr. McGehee suggested coupling the event with a keynote speaker.

Old Business – none

UAMS



GRADUATE SCHOOL

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES

New Business

Dr. McGehee announced the new student success center is operational and Heather Smith in the Library is director. The center offers services to all UAMS students and includes helping students improve writing and presentation skills. The OED tutoring will be absorbed into this. The Center opened October 1st and early reports are very encouraging.

Faculty Committee – No report

Curriculum Committee – No report

Academic Senate Council Update

Dr. Boysen updated Council members on the Academic Senate Council meeting. The plus minus grade issue was briefly discussed, but no decision had been made. The University of Arkansas plans to increase educational opportunities for Arkansans by providing online undergraduate programs. At the UA system meeting the wellness program health care screening was discussed. The UA system has given employee personal information to health coaches and there are concerns regarding possible loss of privacy. Dr. Boysen also reported that a faculty development committee has been set up to explore faculty needs.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.