Thirty (30) individuals signed into the meeting. Lori Baronas, Susan Chinman, Bette Elsden, John McCarthy, Susan Roberts and Patrick Sullivan from the Graduate School attended. Graduate Council members present were Jane Baran, Maria Barbon, Tom Braden, Tony Butterfield, Leslie Button, Carey Dimmitt, David Ford, Alice Harris, Linda Griffin, Mark Hamin, Juan Ruiz Hau, Cynthia Jacelon, A. Yemisi Jimoh, Arthur Kinney, Beth Lang, John Lopes, Ernie May, Bill McClure, Daniel Morales, John Lopes, Jose Ornelas, Anais Surkin, Nate Therien, and David Vaillancourt.

I. Welcome and Introductions
Linda Griffin called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. Introductions were made for the first meeting of the spring semester.

II. Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by Tony Butterfield to accept the minutes of the December 10, 2014 meeting. The motion was seconded by Jose Ornelas and the minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Comments by the Graduate Dean
• Dean John McCarthy distributed a document indicating the reasons applicants are rejecting offers of admission to the graduate school at UMass Amherst. Various reasons included receiving a better financial offer from another institution, lower fees, a better location and a major more suited to their needs. This data can be viewed on the strategic planning website at [http://www.umass.edu/oir-dept-review](http://www.umass.edu/oir-dept-review).
• Dean McCarthy announced the Unit Planning Phase 2 is underway for the spring semester. The fall phase focused on undergraduates and this semester focuses on graduate education and research. This phase is similar to the doctoral program review but more extensive and includes research across the campus. Departments are being asked some hard questions on whether they are preparing their students adequately and how students are financing their education.
• The Chancellor’s Diversity Steering Committee issued its draft report last week. The report recommends more diversity training for TAs and exploration of fellowship models to increase participation by students from underrepresented minority groups.

IV. Old Business
None

V. New Business
A. Report of the ASCC
Arthur Kinney announced the establishment of a College of Information and Computer Sciences passed through an email vote of the Graduate Council.

The ASCC presented 1 course proposal before the Graduate Council.

BCT 521– Environmental Control Systems
A motion was made by Arthur Kinney and seconded by Tony Butterfield to accept the course proposal. This passed unanimously.

The ASCC presented 1 program proposal before the Graduate Council.
1. Accelerated Master’s Program: Public Health
A motion was made by Arthur Kinney and seconded by Tony Butterfield to accept the program proposals. This passed unanimously.

B. Graduate Applications to Multiple Departments
John Lopes asked what the procedure was for collecting application fees from students who apply to more than one program. He noted some colleges and universities collect one fee and students can apply to multiple programs. Patrick Sullivan told the council the graduate school collects an application fee for each department that the student applies to. Dean McCarthy said he would research this.

C. Open Access Policy by the Research Council
There were a few questions regarding the policy. The policy doesn’t address the situation when a faulty member and student co-author. It doesn’t mention when a faculty member collaborates with a faculty member from another college and it doesn’t mention when there are multiple authors and they disagree with a waiver. It was suggested these questions be given to J. Eliot Moss so he can add them to the Frequently Asked Questions. Leslie Button announced the open access policy is being put in place from directives from Washington and some federally funded grants will depend on the open access. The Graduate Council isn’t ready to vote on this until the policy is updated with the changes. Ernie May mentioned legal counsel is looking into the policy language.

VI. Committee reports as necessary
None

VII. Comments from Administrative Officers and others as appropriate
None

IX. Announcements
None

X. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Baronas
Administrative Assistant to the Graduate Council