
I. Welcome and Introductions
Chair Linda Griffin called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by Tony Butterfield to accept the minutes and was seconded by John Lopes. The minutes of November 13, 2013 were unanimously approved.

III. Comments by the Graduate Dean
- Dean McCarthy announced that Will Kazmier joined the Graduate School staff as the new director of communications and events. He has held several positions focusing on marketing and communications as well as student recruitment and joins the graduate school from Northwestern University. Will will be in charge of the graduate commencement this year.
- Dean McCarthy presented a number of pie charts representing event participation of the various schools and colleges to the Office of Professional Development (OPD) workshops. During the summer and fall, OPD offered grant and fellowship training, and they also offered writing initiatives with partners from the Center for Teaching and the UMass Libraries. OPD also offered career based events and life skills training and workshops to assist students in their academic job search. The Graduate School also provides funds to the Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR) to help support methodology training for graduate students. Career paths training was originally offered primarily for the STEM students, but has now been expanded to include students from other disciplines.
- Dean McCarthy presented a list of events held for graduate students. The Graduate Writing Initiative helped to teach students how to produce writing to complete their degrees. Shana Passonno brought in Dr. Doug Johnson to give students a glimpse into neuroscience drug discovery. Another workshop was provided by Prof. Michael Knodler to share his experiences as a STEM professor and women in the STEM profession. The last workshop was regarding alternative career paths for students who aren’t interested in pursuing a position in the teaching field. Bill McClure from Professional and Continuing Education offered his services to Dean McCarthy to help capture students with on-line training.
- John McCarthy sent out an email to departments announcing summer dissertation writing retreats in cooperation with the Writing Center with limited enrollment for one on one instruction to assist students in writing and offered scholarships for daycare for those who might need it. This workshop is to teach students how to work effectively to complete their degree. Sue Roberts is also holding a workshop on training grants and will be adding information to the graduate school website.
- Dean McCarthy approached the Chancellor to help fund a “Preparing Future Faculty” (PFF) program and provided evidence that there is a need for this program. He suggests future faculty need to be familiar with course development, learning technology, online instruction, assessment and accountability, diversity, varied learning styles to mention a few. Dean McCarthy currently
provides funding for a graduate assistant who holds workshops for graduate students and they are oversubscribed within hours of being announced. The Graduate School in collaboration with the Center for Teaching and Faculty Development currently provide these workshops. Doctoral students are looking for an edge in the academic market and early PFF programs focused on improving classroom teaching and now the PFF program will become much broader. Training will be done through on-line training, mentoring by faculty from many Massachusetts institutions, panel discussions, workshops and one-credit courses. Dean McCarthy suggests hiring a PFF director and provided a budget regarding the proposed program. He suggests the PFF program be housed within the OPD office until a new Center for Teaching and Faculty Development director is hired and then discuss a reporting line with the new director.

IV. Old Business
None

V. New Business
A. Report of the ASCC
The ASCC presented 3 course proposals before the Graduate Council.
1. ECE 670 – Advanced System Software Design
2. EDUC 691C – Adult Learning Theory and Practice
3. MATH 524 – Introduction to Modern Analysis 2

The ASCC presented 2 program proposals before the Graduate Council.
1. Change in Status of the Studio Arts Program, the Architecture + Design Program, and the Arts History Program to create a new Department of Art, Department of Architecture, and Department of the History of Art and Architecture.
2. Department name change from Department of Psychology to Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences.

The three course proposals and two program revisions were unanimously approved.

B. Commencement
Tony Butterfield asked if Commencement was going to be similar to 2013 with the advisors hooding their students and Dean McCarthy said that it would be.

C. Diversity Council
Anna Waltman announced the Diversity Council is reviewing teaching evaluations with regards to graduate instruction. It was mentioned that the Faculty Senate Office had set up a committee to review this and it was dissolved because of bargaining issues.

VI. Committee reports as necessary
None

VII. Comments from Administrative Officers and others as appropriate
None

VIII. Announcements
None

IX. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Baronas
Administrative Assistant to the Graduate Council