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

II. Approval of Minutes
The minutes of April 11, 2012 were unanimously approved.

III. Comments by the Graduate Dean
1. John McCarthy announced along with his appointment as the graduate dean a new title of vice-provost was added to it. This means he will be a participant in the Provost’s cabinet meetings.
2. He announced he hired a new person full-time in the GSGS, Bette Elsden, and she is available to help students look for grants and fellowships. Bette offered a workshop for students expecting 25 students and had over 250 who wanted to attend. There is a lot of interest by graduate students looking for funding.
3. The dean announced the Graduate School and the Center for Teaching paired up together to hire Liliana Herakova to work with students for career development. Workshops will be offered on making a teaching portfolio and other workshops for students to connect with one another. Lily may also offer a workshop with GSGS in the future.
4. Career alternatives for students earning a Ph.D. for positions outside of the academy can be accessed through the VersatilePhD.com website.
5. John McCarthy announced other workshops may be offered in graphic design and power point presentations to assist graduate students in their career path.
6. The Graduate School may partner with David Vaillancourt in Student Affairs to offer personal finance workshops.
7. Dean McCarthy hopes to improve the distribution of funds available to students.
8. The statute of limitation process has improved and the Graduate School is currently working with a few departments to pilot the process.
9. As vice provost, John McCarthy is included in the discussions to see what the Chancellor has in mind for the campus and ideas for the future.
10. Patrick Sullivan announced there has been some reorganization within the Graduate School and there is now one service window. Offices have combined to make the processing of application more efficient and improve the Graduate School’s service.
11. Susan Chinman announced GEO settled the agreement in record breaking time for 2013 and 2014 with a 3 ½ % salary increase September 1st for both 2012 and 2013. Both sides were able to resolve the health insurance benefits. Bargaining took 3 months instead of the 9 months as in the past.

IV. Old Business
None
V. New Business

A. Travel Grants
Travel Grants will be given to departments in block grants. The departments will choose their own recipients. Graduate program directors will need to send a report to the Graduate School with the names of the students who were given the grant, where they went and the cost. If a department doesn’t submit a report then they won’t get any money the next year. John Lopes suggested forming a committee to review the number of awards. Linda Griffin will ask for volunteers to sit on this committee.

Tony Butterfield made a motion to accept the new block grant proposal and it was seconded by John Lopes. It was unanimously approved.

B. Dissertation Research Grants
Dissertation Research Grants will be a trial program. Students would apply to the Graduate School and the award would be up to $1,000 for dissertation research. The money could be used for field work, to purchase equipment or to pay subjects. The Graduate Council will need to set up a committee to review these applications and Linda Griffin will ask for volunteers. The graduate dean has allocated $40,000 for this program. An advisor would need to write a letter and GPD sign off on the request.

Jose Ornelas made a motion to accept the new dissertation research grant proposal and Tony Butterfield seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

C. Diversity Assistantships to Diversity Fellowships
This change is to bring these awards equally in stipend and benefits as the University Fellowship. It would also put them on the same schedule as the University Fellowships and can be used for recruitment and retention. Dental benefits may be covered in some cases and those that aren’t covered would receive an extra $500.00.

The Graduate Dean would like some advice on where additional money should go, travel grants or fellowship?

Jose Ornelas made a motion to accept the change from Diversity Assistantship to Diversity Fellowship and it was seconded by Anna Strowe. It was unanimously approved.

D. Doctoral Program Review
Dean McCarthy requested the Graduate Council appoint a subcommittee to work with him in examining date from the Doctoral Program Review. He would like to examine attrition and time to degree. It looks like time to degree isn’t bad, but attrition is. Linda Griffin will ask for volunteers to sit on this committee.

E. Honorific names for Fellowships
Dean McCarthy suggested naming the fellowships. It would look better on a student’s vitae if these had honorific names. It was questioned whether the University would allow this. Dean McCarthy will ask the Development Office.

F. Committee Review Process
Linda Griffin questioned some of the committees of the Graduate Council and whether they were still necessary or should be combined together. She also wondered about the process of some of the committees and if they needed to be broken down into two groups because of the amount of work required. Tony Butterfield suggested putting the process of the ASCC on the web so the committee and others could see where the proposals where in the process.
Patrick Sullivan was given authority to approve special admissions. If he questions an applicant he could create an Ad Hoc Committee to advise him should he feel it necessary for particular special admissions cases.

It was questioned and determined student members on committees don’t have to be Graduate Council members.

D. Proposed Alternative to Current Electronic Theses and Dissertations Access Options
Leslie Button distributed an article from the Chronicle where a Ph.D. student at another university discovered his dissertation for sale through Barnes and Noble. This was done through ProQuest and she wonders if it’s time to move away from ProQuest? Some of the advantages would be better restriction options, allow students to capitalize on their accomplishments and cost savings. If this is an option and ad hoc or committee needs to be formed.

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 1:30 p.m.