

9-14-2015

## **GC Minutes 2015-09-14**

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### **Recommended Citation**

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Minutes Approved at the 624<sup>th</sup> Meeting – November 2, 2015

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

623rd Meeting

September 14, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Arado, Armstrong, Ayres, Bond, Bostwick, Clark Bremer, Gowen, Hathaway, Hoffman, Howell, James, Majumdar, Mantzke, McGuire, Menezes, Osorio, Polala, Porter, Smith, Stoddard, Van Wienen, Wilkins, Yang

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jaffee, Levin, Lukaszuk, Sims

GUESTS: Klaper (Ombudsperson), Woodstrup (for Jaffee)

OTHERS PRESENT: Hughes (Secretary), Smith (Catalog Editor/Curriculum Coordinator)

Bond called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. He welcomed Graduate Council members to the first meeting of the academic year and asked them to introduce themselves. Bond thanked everyone, especially the graduate students, for volunteering to serve on the Graduate Council.

Priority Business

***Establishment of Standing Committees of the Graduate Council:*** Graduate Council members were asked to choose committees on which they would be interested in serving. Faculty members generally serve on two standing committees, and this year, they were assigned to at least one of their choice. Graduate students serve on one committee. Additional vacancies will be filled with non-Council members to ensure appropriate representation by college. Gowen moved approval of the standing committees list as distributed. The motion was seconded by Howell and passed unanimously.

***Selection of an Assistant Chair of the Graduate Council:*** This person will serve as acting chair when the chair is absent and assist with creating the agenda when called upon. The assistant chair also serves as an *ex officio* member on the University Council and Faculty Senate. Van Wienen nominated Levin to serve in this capacity. Wilkins seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

***Selection of Representatives to University Committees:*** Bond asked members for nominations for the four university committees requiring graduate student representation this year. Van Wienen nominated Adam Burgess (ENGL) for the Academic Diversity Programs Advisory Committee and Zachary Killebrew (ENGL) for the Libraries Advisory Committee. Wilkins nominated Bobbi Jean Shepp (LEPF) for the University Assessment Panel. Jeanine Clark Bremer (LTEE) volunteered to serve on the Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee. Nominations were unanimously approved.

Bond asked for volunteers for the faculty vacancies on the Academic Diversity Programs Advisory Committee and the University Assessment Panel. There were no takers. Bond indicated that he would follow-up with a reminder email to Graduate Council indicating that those vacancies need to be filled.

### Committee Reports

***Graduate Council Appeals Committee Report:*** Bond reviewed the report that was distributed prior to the meeting. The committee met four times in person and once electronically. The committee reviewed sixty-nine appeals between September 2014 and August 2015. Sixty-six of the appeals were typical reinstatement requests, of which all but nine were approved. Two cases involved students with baccalaureate degrees from non-accredited institutions who were granted approval to proceed with the application process. One appeal for a third attempt at a qualifying or comprehensive exam was also approved.

***Criminal Disclosure Review Committee Report:*** Bond briefly reviewed the report. Applicants must indicate on the Graduate School application whether they have ever been convicted of a felony or have felony charges pending. If an applicant discloses a conviction or pending charge, the applicant is asked to provide court and police documents related to the case, so the university can investigate. The committee consists of representatives from the Graduate Council and one representative each from Housing and Dining, Community Standards and Student Conduct, and the General Counsel's office. The committee met four times over the past year and reviewed seven cases. Six applicants were permitted to proceed with the application process. One applicant was denied due to the nature of the offense.

### New Business

***Future Agenda Items:*** Bond asked members if there were any specific topics they would like to discuss at Graduate Council this academic year. Hathaway suggested that Graduate Council could address the change in how tuition is assessed and how to communicate it to prospective and current graduate students.

Bond stated that the October meeting would likely be canceled since subcommittees will not have met unless members have specific agenda items. A call for agenda items will go out a few weeks in advance of the meeting and all following meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.