

Graduate Student Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Faculty Dining Room, The Bernhard Center
06.17.2005

Representatives Present: Todd Ide (chair), Sankar Shanmugam (Vice Chair), Jennifer Smith (English), April Reedy (Biology), Kelly Daniels (English), Marcel Brouwers (English), Kinfu Adisu (TLL), Andrew McNair (Art), Kurt Hayden (Ind. Man. Eng.), Brad Salisbury (Mech. & Aero. Eng), Toni Strutz (Social Work), John Risley (Eval. Center), Doris Dirks (TLL)

Guests: Kevin Vichcales (Graduate College), Mike Tjepkema (Bio. Sci.), Jan Miller (Social Work)

1. Meeting call to order 3:05 pm
2. Introductions
3. Approval of minutes
 - a. Motion by Toni to approve, seconded by Marcel
4. Report from Dr. Vichcales
 - a. Provost commits to \$350,000 in salaries and benefits for Graduate College positions. This “hard” money offers stability
 - b. Future changes up to the incoming Dean of Graduate Studies, expected to take office January 2006. Until then, Ron Davis oversees Graduate affairs
 - c. Graduate College moves from Walwood Hall sometime in next several months. New location in Ellsworth Hall
 - d. Health insurance premium will increase maybe \$50 for appointees. Not settled yet
 - e. Block tuition: 1-8 credits pay per credit, 9-12 block, over 12 reverts to per credit. DA funding levels maintained for block tuition
5. Report from the Chair – Todd Ide
 - a. CommUniverCity: September 17th. Tickets and Tent have been ordered. More information will be forthcoming.
 - b. Welcome Back Picnic: will be on a Saturday in conjunction with the half day GA/TA and New Grad Student orientation/training. Kevin interjects that various student services expanded during training session, hopefully solving long running problem. Offers cudos to Provost
 - c. Dean applicants: four so far. Office of Dean of Libraries in charge of search
6. GSAC Sub-Committees and University Councils
 - a. Web Committee – Sankar. In transition. Kelly new rep
 - b. Public Relations – (Vacant, need a Representative)
 - c. Graduate Research Symposium and Journal – Toni, fall publishing date
 - d. University Councils
 - i. Research Policies Council – Kurt, Marcel
 1. Shooting for 80 million in research money
 2. Leaning on every college for more money

- 3. Discussants skeptical of possible success
 - ii. Technology and Operations Council – no report
 - iii. Graduate Studies Council – Todd, Marcel
 - 1. From the Provost: upcoming review process whereby graduate programs are evaluated by teams of faculty. They look to cut or combine programs for a total of up to perhaps 30% of programs
 - iv. Campus Planning and Finance Council – Sankar—No report
 - v. International Education Council – Kinfu
 - 1. Discussion of enrollment losses. Overseas programs possibilities for WMU as recruitment tools for international students
 - vi. GSC/RPC Ethics Committee – No report
 - vii. Graduate student full time status – Toni, Brad, Kelly, Todd
 - 1. Report goes out on 23rd. published on web following Monday
 - 2. Kevin asks why academic deans rather than Graduate College Dean consulted over waivers, suggests otherwise
 - viii. Dean of Grad Studies Search committee: Name changed from Graduate College to Dean of Graduate Studies, yet job description the same. Some funds and duties moved to academic colleges
- e. GFAC – Sankar (Kelly Daniels)
 - i. No proposals
 - f. MLK Committee – Doris--No report
- 7. Old and Continuing Business
 - a. Committee vacancies: future faculty/stem areas, public relations
 - b. GSAC shirts passed out
- 8. New Business—none.
- 9. General Announcements & Briefs
 - a. Jennifer Smith's last meeting. Sadness expressed
 - b. Marcel in France. Jealousy expressed
 - c. GFAC Meeting – July 8th, August 12th, September 9, 2005
 - d. GSAC Meeting – July 8th, August 12th, September 9, 2005

Recessed to Roadhouse to discuss the state of graduate schools at 4:10pm