

GRADUATE AFFAIRS COUNCIL

Friday, November 1, 2013

1:00 p.m. – Heth Hall 043

PRESENT: Dennis Grady (presiding), Brad Bizzell, John Brummette, Matthew Brunner, Victoria Bierman for Virginia Burggraf, Jeff Chase, Joan Dickinson, Susan Schoppelrey for Rana Duncan-Daston, Lori Elis, Lauren Flora, James Gumaer, Diane Hodge, Laura Jacobsen, Kay Johnson, Jennifer Jones, Eric Mesmer, Douglas Mitchell, Kristan Morrison, George Santopietro, Brenda Tyler, Patricia Winter, Paul Witkowsky
Staff: Patricia Phillips (*recorder*), Jeanne Cox, Ryan Phillips, Donna Spradlin, Brian Drivas (GA)
Guest: Roann Barris

1. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:00 p.m.

2. MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the October 4, 2013 meeting. The minutes were approved by consensus.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dr. Nora Reily will be returning to faculty status on January 9, 2014. Dr. Laura Jacobsen will be joining the Graduate College as Interim Associate Dean on January 10, 2014.
- The Graduate College is in the process of hiring a new person for the Assistantship position. In the interim, any questions regarding Assistantships should be directed to Dean Grady or Laura Jacobsen.
- Dean Grady announced that Jeanne Cox will be retiring January 31 after 25 years of service.
- The Graduate College will be moving the beginning of February to Whitt and will remain there while the Buchanan House is being renovated. Once renovations are complete the College will be moved the new and improved Buchanan House.
- Dean Grady gave an update on the Language and Cultural Institute. The MOU between Radford and VT is close to completion. The rooms in Young Hall have been renovated to meet the LCI needs and VT is submitting the paperwork with the INS to formally establish the RULCI as a recognized English language educational venue for visa purposes. Virginia Tech strongly prefers using the iTEP as the exit test/ entrance test although currently Radford only recognizes the TOEFL and IELTS tests. They feel this test is more reliable than others that are offered. Talks between Radford and LCI are continuing to figure out what programs will accept the iTEP.

- The Graduate Hooding Ceremony will be held on Friday, December 13 at 5:00 in the Bondurant Auditorium. RSVPs will be going out today and students have until November 29th to respond to be in the program.
- There are still approximately 150 students who have not completed the New Graduate Student orientation on D2L. Students who have not completed the orientation will be blocked from registering at the end of today.
- The Graduate College will get a new look for the webpage.
- The amounts for GAs, GTAs, and GTFs are about the same as last year. If there are any changes, we will let you know.
- Brian Drivas gave a presentation on the “Summary of Graduate Assistantship Policies on Stipends, Tuition Remission, and Maximum Credits”.
- A motion was made to increase the hours for GAs and GTAs from 12 credit hours to 15 credit hours. The motion was tabled and will be examined by the Policies and Procedures Committee meeting for next Friday, November 8, 2013.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- The following “*Waiver by Examination*” motion was tabled at the October 4, 2013 GAC meeting. A motion was made and seconded to remove the motion from the table and take action on it.

Challenge examinations provide a mechanism for students to demonstrate knowledge they have acquired through work, life or educational experiences. Students who are able to justify that their previous academic preparation and/or life experiences are relevant to a particular course may choose to seek exemption from that course and substitute a course (with approval of their program) for those credits in the program of study. Challenge examinations are comprehensive and carry a processing charge. Each graduate program determines its own policies regarding which courses may be challenged, which students are eligible to take challenge examinations, and which experiences (if any) can form the basis for a challenge. Students cannot challenge a course for which they are currently enrolled nor can they challenge a course they have already completed. Students must earn a grade of “B” or better on a challenge exam in order to be exempted from that course, and challenge exams may not be repeated.

A motion was made to accept the policy as presented. Motion passed by consensus.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- Dean Grady is asking the Policies and Procedures Committee to visit revising the Grievance Policy as it stands now.

6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Graduate Faculty – A report of 15 graduate faculty applications were processed since the last GAC meeting on October 4, 2013. The report was accepted as presented. (See attached).

Academic Course and Program Review – There will be a meeting on Friday, November 15, 2013 at 1:00 pm. in Lucas Hall. Right now only two proposals have been submitted to the committee.

Policies and Procedures Committee – No report at this time.

7. Good of the Order

- Laura Jacobsen announced that she will be emailing all coordinators to schedule meetings with them within the next week.
- Dean Grady will be sending out a survey from the Virginia Council of Graduate Schools regarding the roles and responsibilities of Program Coordinators/Directors. If you have not completed the survey, please does so as soon as possible.

8. ADJOURN

Dr. Grady adjourned the meeting at 1:37 p.m.

November 1, 2013
Graduate Faculty Application Status
(Approved Since Last Graduate Affairs Council Meeting)

Full Graduate Faculty Status - 5 year term

Name	Dept	Limitation(s)
Kevin LoPresto	STEL - Math Ed.	
Lauren Ermann	Counselor Education	
Tanya Corbin	Political Science	
Melanie Parks	School of Nursing - DNP	
Anthony Curtis	Biology	
Prahlad Kasturi	Economics - MBA	
Wendy Eckenrod-Green	STEL	
Laura Vernon	English	
Brad Bizzell	STEL - Educational Leadership	

Associate Graduate Faculty Status - 3 year term

Name	Dept	Limitation(s)
Barbara Patterson	COSD	COSD 640
Laura Buzzard	COSD	COSD 640
Holly Nester	COSD	COSD 640
Hillary Billings	COSD	COSD 640
Eftila Tanellari	Economics - MBA	ECON 651
Kiertisak Toh	Economics - MBA	ECON 695