

Graduate Council
November 12, 2007

Attendees: Charles Taber (Political Science and Chair), Andrei Antonenko (GSO), Estie Arkin (Applied Mathematics and Statistics), Ruth Ben-Zvi (Economics), Debra Caffrey (Graduate School), Allegra DeLaurentiis (Philosophy), Peter Gergen (Graduate School), Susana Huidobro (Graduate Student Advocate), Godlind Johnson (Library), Kent Marks (Graduate School), Celia Marshik (English), Susan O'Leary (Psychology), Brian Phillips (Geosciences), IV Ramakrishnan (Computer Science), Arleen Steckel (Nursing School)

Absent Members: Lawrence Martin (Dean, Graduate School), Anne McElroy (MSRC), Marcia Simon (Dental School), Ryan Soule (GSO)

Guest Attendee: Eric Kaler, Provost

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by the Graduate Council Chair, Charles Taber.

Approval of minutes

The minutes from the November 5, 2007 meeting were approved.

Chair's Report

- **Ad Hoc University Senate Committees:** We have sent notification that the Graduate Council would like to send representatives to these meetings.
- **Residency Rules for Tuition:** There has been no response yet from the Vice President for Finance and Administration.
- **Chapin Community Center:** Charles reported that he has not gotten a response yet regarding Chapin.

Old Business

- **Conflicts of Interest on Dissertation Committees:** The Council addressed again the role of an external member on a dissertation committee. No decision was made and the issue will be discussed again at a later meeting.

New Business

- **Meeting with Provost Eric Kaler:** The Council brought Dr. Kaler up to date on several developments from the committee, such as Ethics training. Outstanding priorities that continue to be important to the Council were addressed, including TA lines and stipend issues, graduate student housing, an administrative home for post-docs, and library resources. Dr. Kaler proposed that he would welcome a conversation each semester to stay abreast of ongoing issues and concerns.
- **New Deadline for Dissertation Defense Committee Appointment Requests:** Kent asked for approval to change the deadline for defense committee appointment requests. The Council voted unanimously to change the deadline to Snapshot each semester.

- **New Time Restriction on TOEFL Scores for Admissions:** The council discussed a recommendation to move the deadline for TOEFL scores for admissions up one year. The committee objected and stressed that this time frame would be too tight to be feasible. Kent will relay this feedback.

Dean's Report

None (the Dean was unable to attend)

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Submitted by Debra Caffrey
Staff Assistant, The Graduate School