

Graduate Council  
November 5, 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), Anne McElroy (MSRC), Susan O’Leary (Psychology), Brian Phillips (Geosciences), IV Ramakrishnan (Computer Science), Marcia Simon (Dental School), Arleen Steckel (Nursing School)

**Absent Members:** Celia Marshik (English), Lawrence Martin (Dean, Graduate School), Ryan Soule (GSO)

**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 October 15, 2007 meeting were approved.

### **Chair’s Report**

- **Residency Rules for Tuition:** Charles plans to follow up with the Vice President for Finance and Administration regarding this issue.
- **GSO Members of GCAC:** GSO members Kate Klein and Andrei Antonenko will serve on this committee.
- **Invitation to Provost:** Dr. Kaler will attend the next meeting of the Graduate Council. The committee will consult about prioritizing topics that should be discussed via email.
- **Anthropology/IDPAS Academic Review:** The external review for Anthropology and IDPAS successfully took place last month.

### **Old Business**

- **Conflicts of Interest:**
  - i. **Dissertation Committees:** A draft of a conflict of interest policy on dissertation committees was distributed for review, as well as examples of similar policies from other institutions. It was agreed that an external member gives credibility to the thesis and is crucial for networking for the student, hence including “professional relationship” as an exclusion in the policy might produce an unwanted impact on who is chosen and/or excluded as an external member. The Council voted to nullify their previously approved vote about a COI policy on dissertation committees.
  - ii. **Prelim Committees:** It was agreed that a conflict of interest policy is not necessary.
  - iii. **Peers Teaching:** It was agreed that a conflict of interest policy is not necessary.

- iv. **Faculty Enrolling in Their Own Programs:** It was agreed that a conflict of interest policy is not necessary.

### **New Business**

- **Ad Hoc University Senate Committees:** Administration is instituting two initiatives and ad hoc senate committees are being developed to accompany them. The first initiative involves an overall inventory of campus space and space reassignment. The second initiative, which relates closely with the first, involves the infrastructure which has become strained by the growing amount of students and faculty. The Council committed to sending a representative to these committee meetings.

### **Dean's Report**

none (The Dean was unable to attend).

### **Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.**

Submitted by Debra Caffrey

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