MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL
OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

April 19, 2012 at 4 p.m.

Graduate Council Chair Richard J. Smith, Dean of The Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, called the meeting to order at 4 p.m. in the Women’s Building Formal Lounge. Approximately 73 faculty and graduate student members attended.

I. Consideration/approval of the Minutes
The Graduate Council reviewed and approved the minutes of its February 8, 2012 meeting as presented.

II. Consideration/approval of the preliminary list of candidates for advanced degrees
The Graduate Council reviewed and approved the preliminary list of candidates for advanced degrees for May 2012.

III. Dean's Report
Dean Smith presented information on the Hooding Ceremony for Ph.D. Students in Arts & Sciences Departments and in the Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences. This ceremony will be held Friday, May 18 at 560 Trinity Avenue Music Center and will begin either one hour after the processional begins or 11:30 am whichever is later. While there should be adequate seating, graduate students must have registered for this event as there is an order in which the participants will need to proceed.

Four Washington University Ph.D. students were recently inducted into the Bouchet Graduate Honor Society following a day-long conference at Yale University. The honorees were: Mary Jane Acuna, Anthropology; Ericka Merriwether, Movement Sciences; Alejandro Reyes, Computational and Systems Biology; and Helina Woldekiros, Anthropology.

IV. Report of Graduate Student Senate Co-President
GSS Co-President Jennifer Greenfield, Ph.D. student in Social Work presented the end-of-year report of the Graduate Student Senate. She highlighted the most successful events of the year: among these were the Graduate Research Symposium and the Outstanding Faculty Mentoring Awards Ceremony which both had over 100 attendees. She also announced an upcoming event, a Career Panel for Graduate Students in German and Romance Languages, which will be held on April 25 from 6-8pm in the Liberman Graduate Center. This is another installment in the ongoing Career Panels in which alumni and other professionals are “teleconferenced in” using Skype technology to present information to students regarding career choices available within a specific field or set of related fields.
She also announced the newly elected Graduate Student Senate (GSS) Officers for the 2012-2013 year. They are as follows:

Aysegul Turan, Comparative Literature – Co-President
Ganesh Babulal, Rehabilitation and Participation Science (RAPS) – Co-President
Zach Colonius, Music – Vice-President for Finance
Andrew Westbrook, Psychology – Vice-President for Programming and Publicity
Lauren Wannenwetsch, English – Vice-President for Communication

Dean Smith presented awards to recognize Jennifer Greenfield and Maggie Majors for their leadership service to the Graduate Arts & Sciences Community. He also presented an award of appreciation to Monica McDonald, the recording secretary.

V. Report of the Teaching and Professional Development Committee Chair

Prof. Deanna Barch, Psychology, presented the end-of-year report of the Teaching and Professional Development Committee. This committee in cooperation with the Teaching Center conducted a survey of graduate students to determine their perceptions of and experiences with The Teaching Citation program; findings will be evaluated and used to modify the program as needed. Professor Barch also mentioned that the Annual TA Online Survey will be emailed to TAs at the end of April.

VI. Report of the Policies and Services Committee Chair

As Chair of the Graduate Council Executive Committee, Prof. Barch read the report of the Policies and Services Committee in the absence of Committee Chair Prof. William Clark who was attending a conference.

The charge of the Policies and Services Committee this semester has been to review a proposed revision of the extant Academic Integrity Policy governing students enrolled in the various degree programs of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. As discussed at the February 8th Graduate Council meeting, Dean Smith and Academic Integrity Officer for the Graduate School, Associate Dean Elaine Berland, undertook a comprehensive review and revision of the extant Graduate School policy in consultation with Deanna Wendler-Modde, Associate General Counsel. The Policies Committee was charged with reviewing and commenting on the draft document with a goal of bringing a final policy document to the Graduate Council for its consideration and approval during the current academic year.

Following the review of the Committee on January 31 and discussion at February Graduate Council meeting, the draft academic integrity policy document was revised and circulated to the Committee for final review and comments in March. Committee Chair Bill Clark noted that the document “accurately reflects the principles and practices we believe to be fundamental in establishing and upholding the highest standards of academic conduct, and building those principles and practices into our students”, and urges Council to support the revision.
VII. Action to consider and approve new graduate courses

Ann Cooper, Graduate School Registrar, presented the list of new graduate courses for the Fall 2012. The Graduate Council voted unanimously to approve the list as presented.

VIII. Action to consider and approve revised statement on Minimal Requirements for Ph.D. Dissertations

The Graduate Council approved the revised statement on Minimal Requirements for Ph.D. Dissertations as presented.

IX. Action to consider and approve revised statement of the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences Academic & Professional Integrity Policy for Graduate Students

The Graduate Council approved the revised statement of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Academic & Professional Integrity Policy for Graduate Students as presented.

X. New Business

Four upcoming events were presented as new business. The Graduate School-wide Orientation will be held on August 20, 2012. More information can be found at http://graduateschool.wustl.edu by clicking on “New Students”. The First-time TA Orientation will be held on August 22, 2012. For more information visit http://teachingcenter.wustl.edu. Teaching with Technology workshops for Ph.D. students can be arranged at http://graduate-workshops.artsci.wustl.edu. The first day of classes for Fall 2012 will be held on Tuesday, August 28, 2012.

XI. Presentation of Dean’s Awards for Teaching Excellence

Dean Smith presented the annual Dean’s Awards for Teaching Excellence awarded each spring to recognize outstanding teaching assistants. There were 16 awards presented, including a $1,500 cash prize and a certificate of recognition for each TA or TA team recipient. TAs are recommended for the award by the departments/programs in which they teach, and award recipients are publicized in the Commencement booklet in the year of their graduation.

2011-2012 Recipients:

Clarissa Cagnato, Steven Goldstein, Lynne Rouse – Anthropology (TA Team)
Emily Cohen-Shikora – Psychology
Sara Jay – International & Area Studies
Manelle Andia Augustin – Romance Languages & Literatures
Cailin Copan-Kelly – Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies
Matthew Fluharty – English
Sarah Hillenbrand – Germanic Languages & Literatures
Nicholas Holtgrewe – Chemistry
Lisa Lillie – History
XII. Adjournment

Dean Smith adjourned the meeting at 5:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Monica McDonald, Anthropology
Recording Secretary to the Graduate Council 2011-2012