

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

April 25, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.

Dean Richard J. Smith called the meeting to order on Monday, April 25, at 4:00 p.m. in the Jordan Formal Classroom, Danforth University Center Room 276. Approximately 65 people attended.

I. Approval of the minutes

The Graduate Council considered and approved the minutes of its December 6, 2010 meeting. Dean Smith recognized Recording Secretary for the Graduate Council, Alison Heller, Ph.D. student in Anthropology, for her service during the 2010-2011 year.

II. Consideration/approval of the preliminary list of Candidates for Advanced Degree

The Graduate Council considered and approved a preliminary list of candidates for advanced degrees for May, 2011.

III. Dean's Report

Dean Smith announced that the Graduate School will hold its annual Hooding and Recognition Ceremony for graduating students in Arts & Sciences departments on May 20, 2011 in the 560 Music Center. Ph.D. recipients in Business, Engineering, and Social Work are hooded in their Schools' ceremonies.

He announced that WUSTL inducted two graduate students into the Edward A. Bouchet Graduate Honor Society at a ceremony at Yale University in March. The two students are Pascale Guiton, Ph.D. student in the Microbiology and Microbial Pathogenesis program in the Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences, and Natecia Williams, Ph.D. student in the Neuroscience program in the Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences.

Dean Smith reported that 12 of 2000 Graduate Research Fellowships awarded by the National Science Foundation in 2010 went to Washington University graduate students; in 2011, the number increased to 24 NSF Fellowships awarded to WUSTL graduate students. In addition new and continuing graduate students have earned external fellowships, including one Javits, two Fulbright and three P.E.O. fellowships.

IV. Report of Graduate Student Senate Co-Presidents

Graduate Student Senate Co-President Barbara Barrow, Ph.D. student in English, presented the Graduate Student Senate Annual Report for 2010-2011. Events included: New Graduate Student Orientation and New Student BBQ; Health Insurance Information Session; Winter Food Drive; Teaching and Career Development workshops; a Diversity Panel titled "Promoting Diversity in the WUSTL Faculty and Graduate Community"; Graduate and Professional Student Health Forum; 16th Annual Graduate Student Research Symposium; participation in Relay for Life, and the Outstanding Faculty Mentor Awards. Elected GSS Co-Presidents for 2011-2012 are Maggie Stanley Majors, Ph.D. student in German, and Jennifer Greenfield, Ph.D. student in Social Work. Dean Smith thanked Barbara Barrow and Dave Gutekunst for their leadership and presented them with certificates and the traditional Washington University umbrellas.

V. Report of Teaching and Professional Development Committee Chair

Associate Dean Elaine Berland read the Annual Report on behalf of Committee Chair Professor Deanna Barch, Psychology. The Committee had two charges. The Committee continued working with Departments to revise and finalize their implementation plans for the Graduate School-wide Teaching Requirement for Ph.D. students; the Chair hopes to finalize plans with all departments by the end of the year. The Committee will continue to conduct the annual Graduate School-wide online TA Survey; the next one will be emailed to TAs at the end of Spring 2011 semester. Graduate Council representatives received an executive summary of previous surveys and will be provided with an updated executive summary including the spring 2011 survey in fall 2011.

VI. Report of Policies and Services Committee Chair

Committee Chair Professor William Clark, Speech and Hearing, presented the Committee Annual Report. The Committee completed its charge to review two proposals brought to the Committee by Dean Smith. After thorough discussion of the proposals, the Committee recommended both proposals be moved to the Graduate Council for consideration and approval. At its November meeting the Graduate Council voted to approve the first recommended proposal to change the wording of the requirements for membership on a dissertation committee: the new wording provides more inclusive language to cover committee membership that has been routinely granted as an exception by the Dean of the Graduate School, but had not been allowed under the current requirements. The Council also voted to approve the second recommended proposal to change the requirements for the A.M. degree: the proposal establishes 36 graduate credits as the minimum requirement for master's degrees awarded in a program that offers an identically-titled Ph.D. degree; minimum credit hours required for a master's with thesis or without thesis in other areas is 30 semester credit hours. The second charge to the Committee was to look at practices for the mentoring and monitoring of satisfactory and timely academic progress by Ph.D. students; this will continue into the next academic year.

VII. Action to consider and approve new graduate courses

Ann Cooper, Graduate School Registrar, offered for the consideration of the Graduate Council the list of new graduate courses for fall 2011. The Graduate Council voted unanimously to approve the list.

VII. Report on New Visiting Research Program: Enhancing Diversity

On behalf of Professor Rich Loomis, Chemistry, Jill Smith, Ph.D. Student in Chemistry presented a report on the Chemistry Department's proposal to encourage diversity in graduate education that was recently funded through the Provost's Initiative on Diversity (handout).

IX. Provost's Revised Procedures for New Degrees

Dean Smith reported that the Office of the Provost has issued revised procedures for the review of new degree proposals. The procedure adds a new step for review at the Provost level and may require more lead time. Proposals for new graduate degrees or certificates in the Graduate School will continue to go through the Graduate Dean and will require approval by the Graduate Council in addition to the new Provost review step.

X. New Business

Announcements:

- The Graduate School-wide Orientation for New Graduate Students will be held on August 22, 2011. Information will be available at <http://graduateschool.wustl.edu>, under the heading “New Students”.
- TA Orientation for first-time TA’s, organized by The Teaching Center, will be held on Wednesday, August 24, 2011.
- First day of classes fall 2011 is Tuesday, August 30, 2011.
- In mid-October, the Graduate School will again participate in China Scholarship Conference, if your department is interested in sending a representative.
- Update on Student Health insurance: terms and costs for next year have not been resolved yet due to the changes in health care reform.

IX. Presentation of the 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 14 awards presented, including a \$1,500 cash prize and a certificate of recognition for each graduate student recipient. TAs are recommended for the award by their departments, and award recipients are publicized in the Commencement booklet in the year of their graduate.

2010-2011 Recipients:

Julia Maki, Anthropology

Bryna Campbell, Art History and Archaeology

David Holloway, Asian and Near Eastern Studies

Sophia White, Chemistry

Katherine Fama, English

Faruk Pasic, Germanic Languages & Literatures

Kevin Wooten, History

Rajbir Purewal Hazelwood, International and Area Studies

Jeff Langford, Mathematics

Zachary Hoskins, Philosophy

Shawn DeCenzo, Physics

Morgan Hazelton, Political Science

Maria Alejandra Aguilar Dornelles, Romance Languages & Literatures

Patrick Brugh, Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies

X. Adjournment

Dean Smith adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m. and invited all to attend a reception to thank the Graduate Council Representatives for their service and to congratulate the Teaching Award Recipients.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Berland, Ph.D.

Associate Dean, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences