

Minutes of the Meeting of the University Graduate Council
April 11, 2011, 3:00 p.m., 113 Linton Hall

AGENDA

Participants: Karen Klomparens (Grad School), Julie Funk (CVM), Adam Lovgren (COGS), Stefan Fletcher (COGS), Deleve Polischuk (MUS), Ger Schultink for Dan Bronstein (CANR), John Goddeeris (SSC), Debra Hardison (CAL), Ned Jackson (CNS), Ed Outslay (BUS), Judith Vinson (NUR), Roger Baldwin for Kris Renn (CoEd), Greg Lang (CANR), John Wang (COM), Shelagh Ferguson-Miller (CNS), Manooch Koochesfahani for R. Mulkkanela (EGR)

Guests: Paul Hunt (VPRGS), Ed McGarrell (CJ), S. Lazy (CAS), C. Maxwell (SSC), S. Schneider (Poli.Sci)

1. Approval of Agenda.
2. Approval of March 14, 2011 Minutes
3. Remarks from the Chairperson. (Funk)

Chairperson Funk noted that Provost Wilcox is expected to release a new statement about the shared basic science departments soon. Also expected is an overview document from Dean Rappley about things that are going on in the College of Human Medicine. Chairperson Funk also noted that she expects this to be her last meeting as chair (there being no more meetings scheduled for this academic year) and she thanked the members and Dean Klomparens and her staff.

4. Remarks from the Graduate School. (Klomparens)

Dean Klomparens noted and distributed a statement from Associate Provost Curry about a new requirement of criminal background checks for graduate assistants. She also discussed a national movement among graduate schools toward making available on the web summary information (about GRE scores, time to degree, etc.) about students by program. She also thanked members of the committee for their service this year.

5. Remarks from the COGS Representative.

COGS representatives noted several items: (1) COGS is sponsoring an event on April 29 on stress management with Brian Seaward. (2) COGS met with VP Poston regarding greater student involvement when the next RFP for student health insurance bids is issued in two years. An advisory group including students will have the opportunity to review the RFP before it goes out and suggest changes. (3) COGS is announcing a co-operative agreement with graduate students at U-M regarding a joint research conference, social events and other things. (4) COGS is interested in a possible renovation of Chittenden Hall which may go forward, as a place where a number of activities related to graduate education could be housed together. (5) COGS is working with Culinary Services on a Japan relief project.

6. Reports of the University Graduate Council Subcommittees.

Curriculum and Program Review Committee	no report
Academic Research Policy Subcommittee	no report

Graduate Instruction, Employment, Mentoring Subcommittee

The subcommittee recommended and the committee supported by unanimous vote the following

Recommendation to Provost for RA compensation 2011-2012

Given the importance of Research Assistants to the quality of the MSU research enterprise and our national and international visibility, as well as the positive effects of research for the State of Michigan and its economy, and the value of the Teaching Excluded (not in the Graduate Employees Union) in furthering the educational enterprise at MSU, University Graduate Council recommends a stipend increase for all RAs and TEs of no less than 2.5% for 2011-12.

Further, the University Graduate Council recommends that the structure of the dependent health insurance subsidy be tied to the cost that MSU pays for the health insurance for the graduate assistant, that is the maximum out-of-pocket cost to the student per enrolled dependent for health care coverage is equal to the cost that MSU pays the insurance provider for the student rate.

7. Election of Officers

John Goddeeris was nominated and elected to be chairperson for academic year 2011-12. Other offices were not filled at this time.

8. Request for a Moratorium on admission to the **Graduate Specialization in Security Management** in the **Department of Criminal Justice**. **Tabled, pending clarification of whether moratorium is the best option** (tabled from March 14, 2011) Approved
9. Request to establish a Linked **Bachelor of Arts Degree in Public Policy** and **Master of Public Policy Degree in Public Policy** in the Department of Political Science. Approved
10. Request to establish a Linked **Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science-Prelaw** and **Master of Public Policy Degree in Public Policy** in the Department of Political Science. Approved
11. Request to change the requirements for the **Master of Arts** degree in **Health and Risk Communication** in the College of Communication Arts and Sciences. Approved
12. Request to change the requirements for the **Master of Science** degree in **Pharmacology and Toxicology** in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology. Approved
13. Request to change the requirements for the **Master of Arts** degree in **Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages** in the Department of Linguistics and Germanics, Slavic, Asian and African Languages. Approved (with a correction regarding TOEFL scores)
14. University Research Organization proposal for general discussion (Guest: Dr. Paul Hunt, Senior VPR)

Dr. Hunt discussed and answered questions about the status of consideration of a URO at MSU (materials had been made available at Angel). Discussion is at the stage of

APPROVED 9/12/11

exploring options rather than consideration of a specific proposal. A committee is being formed with faculty participation that will be working during summer and fall 2011. Volunteers or nominations for the committee are welcomed.

15. Roundtable No items came forward

16. Adjournment.