I. Call to order

II. Approval of Minutes of Meeting Number 451, January 2011 (please see attached)

III. Announcements
   A. Recent appointments to the Graduate Faculty
      
      Laura Frost, Adjunct Professor, Department of English

   B. Graduate curriculum proposals to be reviewed and acted on this academic year must be received in the Graduate School by 1 April 2011. Proposals received after that date will be reviewed and acted on during the 2011-2012 academic year.

   C. Change in personnel in the Graduate School office.

   D. Nominations for scholarships and fellowships are due 1 March 2011.

IV. Committees
   A. Curriculum Committee

   I. 400 – level courses

   New Courses:

   1) College of Arts and Sciences
      Department of Mathematics

      MTH 435 Mathematical Analysis and Topology I
      This is the first of two courses providing rigorous introduction to mathematical analysis (theory of calculus) and metric space topology as a basis for advanced work in mathematics (Lec 4 credits)
MTH 436 Mathematical Analysis and Topology II
This is the second of two courses providing rigorous introduction to mathematical analysis (theory of calculus) and metric space topology as a basis for advanced work in mathematics (Lec 4 credits)

II. 500/600-level courses

Changes:

1) College of Human Science and Services
   Department of Communicative Disorders

CMD 560 Voice Disorders – change in catalog description and prerequisites to read:
Etiology and symptomatology of vocal pathology for adults and children; intervention strategies for organic, behavioral and psychological voice disorders; rehabilitation team approach to voice-resonance problems associated with cleft palate. Pre: Graduate standing or permission of the instructor.

CMD 571 Medical Speech-Language Pathology – change in credits from 1 to 2, change in catalog description to read: Teaches evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of adults and children seen in a medical setting. Appropriate for clinicians working in a medical setting or treating people discharged from a medical setting. Pre: graduate standing, and change in grading method from S/U only to letter grade.

2) College of Engineering
   Department of Electrical, Computer and Biomedical Engineering

ELE 602 Graduate Seminar – change in prerequisite to read: Permission of Instructor

Additional Curricular Matters

1) College of Engineering
   Department of Mechanical, Systems and Industrial Engineering

The Department of Mechanical, Systems and Industrial Engineering is proposing changes to the following areas:

Number of 400-level courses that can be included for graduate credit in MS programs.

Current Policy: University limit which allows up to 50% at the 400-level

Graduate Manual section 9.11. All courses taken for plan credit should be at the graduate level. At least half of the total plan course credits should be 500 or 600 level.

Proposed New Policy: No more than three 400-level courses (9 credits) can be included in the master’s program of study.
Proposed New Policy: Modify core course list for MCE MS program to include MCE 541 as follows:

*Fluid Mechanics/ Thermal Sciences*

**MCE 541 Advanced Thermodynamics**  
MCE 545 Heat Transfer (Conduction)  
MCE 551 Fluids I

*Solid Mechanics*

MCE 571 Theory of Elasticity I  
MCE 561 Comp. Meth. in Solid Mechanics

*Mechanical Systems*

MCE 563 Advanced Dynamics  
MCE 564 Advanced Vibrations  
MCE 566 Mechanics of Robot Manipulators

V. Graduate School Manual

The Preface below will be discussed as an addition to the newly revised Graduate School Manual. The original version of the Preface introduced at our last meeting appears first, and a revised draft appears after it.

PREFACE TO THE 2011 REVISION (Original Draft from our last meeting)

This 2011 version of the Graduate School Manual was designed to clarify existing policies, introduce new policies, and interject elements of guidance, all with the intent of improving graduate education at the University of Rhode Island. The persons responsible for developing or approving this revised Manual were the Graduate Manual Revision Committee (Steven Carey, Kevin McClure, Jean Miller, Elizabeth Smith, Gary Stoner, and co-chairs Harold Bibb and Keith Killingbeck), Interim Dean Nasser Zawia, and the Graduate Councils of the 2009-10 and 2010-11 academic years. This document will be modified periodically to further improve the clarity of existing policies. Any new policies or substantive changes in extant policies will include the date on which the Graduate Council approved the change. That date will be posted adjacent to the section number that precedes the policy (e.g., Section 7.31 [modified 5 March 2015]. Specific deadlines for the submission of important milestone documents are available on the Graduate School web site. Although advice and counsel regarding progress through a graduate degree program should always be sought from a student’s major advisor, Graduate Program Director, research committee, or the Graduate School, each student is ultimately responsible for knowing and following the policies in this Graduate School Manual.
PREFACE TO THE 2011 REVISION (New draft, changes in bold)

This 2011 version of the Graduate School Manual was designed to clarify existing policies, introduce new policies, and interject elements of guidance, all with the intent of improving graduate education at the University of Rhode Island. The persons responsible for developing or approving this revised Manual were the Graduate Manual Revision Committee (Steven Carey, Kevin McClure, Jean Miller, Elizabeth Smith, Gary Stoner, and co-chairs Harold Bibb and Keith Killingbeck), Interim Dean Nasser Zawia, and the Graduate Councils of the 2009-10 and 2010-11 academic years. This document will be modified periodically to further improve the clarity of existing policies. Any new policies or substantive changes in extant policies that have a direct bearing on graduation requirements will be introduced once per year as part of the most recent version of the Graduate School Manual. When a new version of the Graduate School Manual is deemed necessary by virtue of the introduction of new policies, it will normally be introduced at the beginning of a Fall semester. Past versions of Manuals will be archived in their entirety on the Graduate School web site. A comprehensive review of the Graduate School Manual will occur every five years. Specific deadlines for the submission of important milestone documents are available on the Graduate School web site. Although advice and counsel regarding progress through a graduate degree program should always be sought from a student’s major advisor, Graduate Program Director, research committee, or the Graduate School, each student is ultimately responsible for knowing and following the policies in this Graduate School Manual.

VI. Policy matters

A. Request from Dean David Farmer, GSO, for discussion of policies related to Limited Joint Appointments

“I request that the Graduate Council consider allowing faculty members to serve as outside members on thesis and dissertation committees for students in colleges in which they hold a limited joint appointment. This would allow for greater integration between colleges across the university. The reasons that make faculty outside one’s home college attractive for limited joint appointments (common research interests etc.) are precisely the same reasons that make those faculty members good candidates for
membership on graduate students’ committees. This change would eliminate the current situation where we must decide whether to encourage closer collaboration with faculty members in other colleges by offering limited joint appointments or not encourage these ties in order for our students to benefit from their expertise as a committee member.”

VII. New Business

VIII. Old Business

A. Continued discussion of a request from Associate Dean David Smith, GSO, regarding the final approval of successfully-defended theses and dissertations (Graduate Manual section 11.28).

“I would like to bring to your attention a gap in our handling of theses and dissertations. All members of the examination committee can request significant changes that require their approval prior to submission of the final copy. In our current system, the signatures of non-core committee members are not required on any documents after the oral examination. This can lead to a situation where a student submits their final copy to the Graduate School without the knowledge or approval of those non-core committee members that requested changes. I highly doubt this happens frequently but I have just been made aware of one instance where this exact scenario did occur. I recommend that the Graduate Council take up this issue and put into place a safeguard that will ensure all required approvals are obtained prior to the acceptance of the final copy.”

Version of Section 11.28 in the upcoming revised Graduate School Manual –

“11.28. Approval of the thesis/dissertation itself will be certified by the signatures of the major professor and the remainder of the research committee on the formal signature page of the thesis/dissertation. These signatures confirm that any changes and corrections to the thesis/dissertation required by the entire defense committee have been made. Only the members of the research committee, not the additional members of the defense committee, sign the formal signature page of the thesis/dissertation.

IX. Adjournment