UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

To: Members of the 2011-2012 Graduate Council

From: Nasser Zawia, Dean
Keith Killingbeck, Associate Dean

Date: 25 January 2012

RE: Agenda for Meeting Number 461 of the Graduate Council to be held on Monday 27 February 2012 at 2:00 p.m. in the rectangular Board Room of the Alumni Center

I. Call to order

II. Approval of Minutes of Meeting Number 460, 30 January 2012 (please see attachment)

III. Announcements

A. Recent additions to the Graduate Faculty

LELAND JACKSON  ELECTRICAL, COMP, & BIOMED ENG  1/27/2012
STACEY LEICHT YOUNT  BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES  2/1/2012
BRICE LOOSE  GSO  2/2/2012
AARON BRADSHAW  CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENG  2/10/2012
VINKA CRAVEN  CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENG  2/10/2012
AISLING CAFFREY  PHARMACY  2/17/2012
ALANA BIBEAU  WOMEN’S STUDIES  2/17/2012
ERIK LOOMIS  HISTORY  2/20/2012

B. Update on nominations for the Excellence in Doctoral Research Awards, and the review of those nominations.

C. Update on the use of thesis/dissertation proposal and defense rubrics as related to graduate student learning outcomes assessment.

IV. Committees

A. Curriculum Committee

I. 400 – level courses

Changes:

1) College of the Environment and Life Sciences
   Department of Cell and Molecular Biology

MIC 422 Biotechnology of Industrial Microorganisms - change in course listing and title to MIC/MLS 422 Biotechnology Manufacturing and in catalog description to
The use of genetically altered microorganisms and eukaryotic cells for the production of therapeutic agents and vaccines. Upstream and downstream processing, Good Manufacturing Practices. (Lec. 3)

**New Courses:**

1) College of the Environment and Life Sciences  
Department of Environmental and Natural Resource Economics

**EEC 497 Internship in Environmental Economics (1-3)**  
Supervised work experience in environmental and natural resource economics or related areas with a governmental agency, nongovernmental organization, or in the private sector. Can be repeated for up to 9 credits. Practicum. Pre: EEC 105. S/U grading.

**II. 500/600-level courses**

**Changes:**

1) College of the Environment and Life Sciences  
Department of Cell and Molecular Biology

**MLS 571 Biotechnology Product Evaluation and Development** – Request for online component of existing course.

**New Courses:**

1) Graduate School  
Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Program

**NEU 501 Introduction to the Neurosciences (4)**  
Introduction to basic neuroscience areas, including gross and Microscopic anatomy, neural development, membrane physiology, sensory and motor systems, language, cognition, neuropharmacology, neuroengineering, and psychological disorders. (Lec 3; Rec 1) Pre: Graduate standing and enrollment in INP or permission of instructor.

**NEU 581/582 Neurosciences Colloquium (1/1)**  
Program of invited speakers, who will present original research topics in neurosciences field. Credit available to graduate students in the Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Program (INP) and graduate students and upper level undergraduates from other programs (Sem 1,1). No pre.

**NEU 599 Master’s Thesis Research (1-6)**  
Number of credits is determined each semester in consultation with the major professor or program committee. (Independent Study). Pre: Graduate standing in the Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Program (INP).

**NEU 699 Neuroscience Doctoral Dissertation Research (1-6)**
Number of credits is determined each semester in consultation with the major professor or program committee. (Independent Study). Pre: Graduate standing in the PhD program.

2) College of the Environment and Life Sciences
Department of Natural Resources Science

NRS 518 Ecohydrology (3)
Relationships between hydrology and the diversity, structure and function of ecosystems. Topics include methods of study; interaction of watershed dynamics and flow regimes upon wetlands and fluvial systems. Pre: NRS 361 or NRS 461 or permission of instructor.

3) College of the Environment and Life Sciences
Department of Cell and Molecular Biology

MLS 580 Quality Management Systems I: Org. and Leadership (4)
Application of quality management system basic principles as they relate to policy, decision-making and strategy development for laboratory leadership, including organization, policy and process development, information management, and personnel. Pre: Acceptance into the Medical Laboratory Quality Management Systems Graduate Certificate Program or permission of instructor.

MLS 581 Clinical Research (3)
This course will cover the drug development process, principles of good clinical practice, clinical trial phases (I-IV), key players in clinical research and associated regulatory strategies. Online course. Pre: graduate or upper undergraduate standing or permission of instructor

MLS 582 Quality Management Systems II: Oper. and Tech. Man. (4)
Application of quality management system basic principles as they relate to policy, and strategy development for the support of laboratory technical operations, including organizational structure, work design policy. Pre: Acceptance into the Medical Laboratory Quality Management Systems Graduate Certificate Program or permission of instructor.

Teaches the application of quality management system (QMS) relating to policy, decision-making and strategy development and oversight of quality activities. Pre: Acceptance into the Medical Laboratory Quality Management Systems Graduate Certificate Program or permission of instructor.

4) College of Business Administration

MBA 570X Hedge Fund Management and Investment Banking (3)
Provide working knowledge of hedge fund management and investment banking. Understand hedge fund strategies and regulations. Discuss IPOs, M&As, convertibles, debt transactions and other investment banking business.

Additional Curricular Matters
To: Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee  
From: Professor Gale Eaton, Director  
Subject: Change in the number of credits required for the Master of Library and Information Studies

GSLIS is requesting that the total credits required for the M.L.I.S. be reduced from 42 (the present requirement) to 36.

Rationale:

1. The core of required courses – currently 21 credits for students in the general M.L.I.S. program and 36 for those in the School Library Media program – ensures adequate coverage of the American Library Association’s “Core Competences,” the GSLIS Educational Outcomes, and the RIDE Professional Teacher Standards.
2. Of 51 ALA-accredited MLIS programs in the U.S., only 23 require more than 36 credits; 12 of the top-ranked 21 programs require only 36. At a time when economic pressures are eating into enrollments, requiring more than 36 credit hours is putting URI at a relative disadvantage.

Implementation:

1. For the general M.L.I.S. program, there will be 21 credits of required courses:
   a. LSC 502 (Management of Library and Information Services, 3 credits)
   b. LSC 503 (Collection Management, 3 credits)
   c. LSC 504 (Reference and Information Services, 3 credits)
   d. LSC 505 (Organization of Information, 3 credits)
   e. LSC 508 (Introduction to Information Science and Technology, 3 credits)
   f. LSC 557 (Research and Evaluation for Library and Information Services, 3 credits)
   g. LSC 595 (LIS Professional Field Experience, 3 credits)

   There will also be 15 credits of electives, selected in consultation with the student’s advisor.

2. For the M.L.I.S. with preparation for school library media certification, there will be 36-7 credits of required courses:
   a. LSC 502 (Management of Library and Information Services, 3 credits)
   b. LSC 504 (Reference and Information Services, 3 credits)
   c. LSC 505 (Organization of Information, 3 credits)
   d. LSC 508 (Introduction to Information Science and Technology, 3 credits)
   e. LSC 520 (School Library Media Services, 3-4 credits)
   f. LSC 527 (Information Literacy Instruction, 3 credits)
   g. LSC 530 (Library Materials for Children, 3 credits)
   h. LSC 531 (Library Materials for Young Adults, 3 credits)
i. LSC 557 (Research and Evaluation for Library and Information Services, 3 credits)

j. LSC 596 (Professional Field Experience: School Library Media Practicum and Seminar, 9 credits)

3. Cooperative programs leading to dual masters’ degrees will require fewer credits: 54 for the M.L.I.S. plus the M.A. in History or in English, 57 for the M.L.I.S. plus the M.P.A.).

4. Implementation will be immediate upon approval by the Faculty Senate, the President, and the Board of Governors. Students previously admitted to the M.L.I.S. program may elect to graduate with 36 credits, provided that these include all required courses.

Dean: Wilfred Dvorak 2/7/11

College Committee: Walter von Reinhart 2/7/11

Library and Information Studies

M.L.I.S., Cooperative Programs 401.874.2947

Faculty: Professor Eaton, director, Graduate School of Library and Information Studies; Professors Gilton, Ma, and McCarthy.

The Master of Library and Information Studies (M.L.I.S.) degree prepares students for professional service and leadership in libraries and other organizations, including information positions in business and government. Specializations include service to children and young adults, reference and bibliography, organization of information, technical services, information literacy instruction, special collections and rare books, automation, information science, and others. The program leading to the M.L.I.S. is accredited by the American Library Association (ALA).

The School Library Media Specialist certification program leads to both the M.L.I.S. and eligibility for Library Media Specialist K-12 certification in Rhode Island and other states participating in the Interstate Compact. This program is approved by the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE), accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), and “nationally recognized” by ALA’s American Association of School Librarians (AASL).

Master of Library and Information Studies

Admission requirements: bachelor’s degree (B average); undergraduate GPA of 3.00 or equivalent; GRE or MAT at the 50th percentile or above. GRE or MAT may be waived if undergraduate GPA is above 3.30 or if applicant has successfully completed another post-baccalaureate degree. The completed application package should be received by October 15 for spring admission, March 15 for summer admission, and June 15 for fall admission.

Program requirements: 36 credits, 21 in required core courses (LSC 502, 503, 504, 505, 508, 557, and 595) and 15 in electives, six of which may be taken in courses
outside library science when relevant to the student’s specialization; one course (LSC 557) with major paper requiring significant independent research; and a written comprehensive examination. Students in the school library media program must take both LSC 530 and LSC 531. Students who take both LSC 530 and LSC 531 may waive LSC 503. No more than six credits or two courses may be taken in non-matriculating status for transfer into the degree program.

Requirements for the M.L.I.S. must be met within five calendar years after the date when the student is first enrolled as a graduate student at the University. With the submission of a written request for an extension and a schedule for completion, endorsed by the major professor and the Graduate Program Director, a specific, time-limited extension may be approved by the Dean of the Graduate School. Extensions are generally undesirable because of the rapid change in library and information services. If such extensions are granted, courses completed more than five calendar years prior to graduation will no longer be valid, and must be replaced by new courses or reinstated by examination to ensure that the graduate’s knowledge of the field is current.

School Library Media Certification Program: To meet NCATE accreditation and RIDE requirements for certification students in the M.L.I.S. program who wish to pursue certification as school library media specialists K-12 must take specific courses (LSC 502, 504, 505, 508, 520, 527, 530, 531, 557, and 596.) Students should consult with their advisors to be sure they are meeting all certification requirements including passing the PRAXIS exams prior to graduation in order to apply to for state certification as a library media specialist K-12.

Teacher Certification Program (TCP) is a specialization in school library media for individuals who already hold accredited M.L.I.S. degrees. Candidates for certification must apply for admission following G.S.L.I.S. guidelines and complete all the same requirements as M.L.I.S. students in the school library media program. Transcript analysis will determine which courses will be required.

Certificate in Information Literacy Instruction

A 15-credit post-baccalaureate certificate in Information Literacy Instruction (ILIC) is open to current students (who may take it as part of their M.L.I.S. program) and college graduates with or without the M.L.I.S. Completion of the following courses is required: LSC 504, Reference and Information Studies; LSC 524, Teaching About Information; LSC 525, Multiculturalism in Libraries; LSC 527, Information Literacy Instruction; LSC 528, Instructional Technology in Library and Information Services. Candidates for the ILIC must apply for admission following G.S.L.I.S. guidelines and will be required to earn a grade of B or better in each course. A maximum of three graduate credits will be accepted from another graduate library school program for transfer of credit.

Candidates for the ILIC must apply for admission following G.S.L.I.S. guidelines and will be required to earn a grade of B or better in each course. A maximum of three graduate credits will be accepted from another graduate library school program for transfer of credit.

M.A. in History and M.L.I.S. Cooperative Program
By proper selection of course work, a student may simultaneously earn the degrees of Master of Arts in history and Master of Library and Information Studies.

Admission requirements: GRE and other requirements listed for history and library science. Applicant must apply and be accepted in both programs. The application to each program must indicate history/library and information studies as the field of specialization.

Program requirements: Students must submit individual programs of study for the 36-credit M.L.I.S. program and the 30-credit program for the M.A. in history. The integrated pursuit of the two degrees makes it possible for six credits of appropriately selected course work from one program to serve as electives in the other, and for six credits of course work to be applied in the opposite direction. Thus, when planned and taken jointly, the two programs can be completed with a total of 54 credits rather than 66 credits.

M.P.A. and M.L.I.S. Cooperative Program

A cooperative program permits joint enrollment in the Master of Library and Information Studies and Master of Public Administration programs. The integrated pursuit of the two degrees makes it possible for six credits of appropriately selected course work from one program to serve as electives in the other, and for six credits to be applied in the opposite direction. Thus, when planned and taken jointly, the two programs can be completed with a total of 60 credits.

Admission requirements: GRE and other requirements listed for M.L.I.S. and M.P.A. Applicant must apply and be accepted in both programs. The application to each program must indicate M.L.I.S./M.P.A. as the field of specialization.

Program requirements: Each student must complete the required core courses for both programs plus three credits of PSC 590 for the M.P.A. After consultation with, and approval of, both departments, students must file separate programs of study for each degree, indicating the courses to be jointly counted. Each student must pass the separate comprehensive examination for each degree.

M.A. in English and M.L.I.S. Cooperative Program

By proper selection of course work, a student may simultaneously earn the degree of Master of Library and Information Studies and Master of Arts in English.

Admission requirements: GRE and all other requirements listed for M.L.I.S. and M.A. in English. Applicant must apply to both programs and be accepted by both. The application to each program must indicate English/library and information studies as the field of specialization.

Program requirements: Students must submit individual programs of study for the 36-credit M.L.I.S. program and the 30-credit M.A. in English. The integrated pursuit of the two degrees makes it possible for six credits of appropriately selected course work from one program to serve as electives in the other, and for six credits of course work
to be applied in the opposite direction. ENG 510, 511, and 514 are required. Thus, when planned and taken jointly, the two programs can be completed with a total of 54 credits rather than 66. Students must complete at least 30 credits in librarianship and at least 24 credits in English.

**Other Cooperative Programs**

Under existing University policy, students may be able to establish cooperative programs with other masters degree programs within the University. Interested persons should consult with the director.

**VI. Old Business**

A. Policies surrounding Graduate Faculty Status (GFS) – should newly hired tenure-track faculty holding the degree of Ph.D. automatically become members of the Graduate Faculty? GFS could still be removed at a later date if deemed appropriate by the Council, and the stipulation would still remain that faculty with a terminal degree other than the Ph.D. could not serve on Ph.D. committees.

Secondly -- should Emeritus faculty or faculty with the position of Research Professor be allowed to serve as major advisor for students that they would have taken on after their appointment to either status?

Thirdly – an example of a situation where the removal of GFS may be in order. What is needed is counsel from the Council.

B. The suggestion was made at the recent Graduate School Retreat to place a hold on a student’s enrollment if they have completed 15 credits of coursework, but have yet to submit an approved Program of Study. We would like to discuss this possibility, and other possible alternatives, to encourage students to prepare and submit Programs of Study in a timely fashion.

Current Graduate School Manual language addressing this issue includes…..

“Students are expected to submit a Program of Study as soon as is practicable, but not later than the end of the second semester of their program”

C. A.C.E. Language Institutes and their potential relationship to graduate education at URI.

**VII. Policy Issues and Initiatives**

A. Should the Graduate School accept an undergraduate degree from the University of Phoenix as an acceptable credential for entry into the Graduate School at URI?

B. ‘Last Semester Status’ – an example of this policy and a discussion of whether this policy should legitimately apply to students in non-thesis programs.
VIII. New Business

IX. Adjournment