UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

To: Members of the 2011-2012 Graduate Council
From: Nasser Zawia, Dean
Keith Killingbeck, Associate Dean
Date: 22 March 2012
RE: Agenda for Meeting Number 462 of the Graduate Council to be held on
Monday 26 March 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 461, 27 February 2012 (please see
attachment)

III. Announcements
A. Recent additions to the Graduate Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>James Delgado</td>
<td>GSO</td>
<td>2/29/2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel Codiga</td>
<td>GSO</td>
<td>2/29/2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nancy Karraker</td>
<td>Natural Resources</td>
<td>3/1/2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denise Coppa</td>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>3/5/2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joanne Fawcett Costello</td>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>3/6/2012</td>
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<td>Bethany Jenkins</td>
<td>Cell and Molecular</td>
<td>3/15/2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Janice Hulme</td>
<td>Physical Therapy</td>
<td>3/20/2012</td>
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B. Update on the reviews of the Excellence in Doctoral Research Awards
nominations, and the deliberations of the Fellowship/Scholarship
Committee.

C. Suggestions for a speaker for graduate commencement.

IV. Committees
A. Curriculum Committee

I. 400 – level courses

Changes:
1) College of Human Science and Services
   School of Education

EDC 429 Emergent Literacy and Storytelling - change in title to Storytelling and
Emergent Literacy, change in credits from 2 to 3, and change in catalog description
and prerequisites to read: Theoretical foundations and applications of storytelling and
emergent literacy including provisions for diverse populations. Field-based storytelling at early childhood and elementary sites. Focuses on children birth to seven years. Pre: Sophomore or higher standing; also open to graduate students. Open to all students in the summer.

New Courses:

1) College of the Environment and Life Sciences
   Department of Biological Sciences

BIO/NRS 485X Salt Marsh Ecology (4)
Structure and function of salt marsh ecosystems, including biogeochemistry, in the context of global change. Seminar-style discussions of primary scientific literature, laboratory and field exercises, and an independent research poster. Pre: BIO 262 or NRS 223 and 2 semesters of chemistry or permission of instructor. BIO 360 recommended. Not for graduate credit.

BIO/NRS 485 Salt Marsh Ecology (4)
Structure and function of salt marsh ecosystems, including biogeochemistry, in the context of global change. Seminar-style discussions of primary scientific literature, laboratory and field exercises, and an independent research poster. Pre: BIO 262 or NRS 223 and 2 semesters of chemistry or permission of instructor. BIO 360 recommended. Not for graduate credit.

II. 500/600-level courses

Changes:

1) College of Human Science and Services
   School of Education

EDC 921, 922, 923 Workshop for Teachers – change in catalog description to read: Current issues in education. Specific topics offered for in-service teachers and administrators. For 921 Topics include: "Using Blogs & Wikis to Foster Literacy", "SMILE I". For 922 Topics include: "SMILE II". For 923 Topics include: "SMILE III". (Workshop/online) Pre: certified teacher

   Human Development and Family Studies

HDF 559 Gender Issues in Therapy – change in title to Diversity in Applied Family Settings and description to read: Systemic integration of multicultural and contextual frameworks for service delivery and scholarly work in a diverse world. Emphasis on the development of multicultural competence, awareness, practical applications, and evaluation in family settings.

2) College of the Environment and Life Sciences
   Department of Biological Sciences
BIO 546 Introduction to Neurobiology – change in listing to reflect a cross listing of BIO 502/NEU 502, and in catalog description to read: Fundamental processes in neurobiology with emphasis on cellular and membrane mechanisms of nerve functioning. (Lec 3).

BIO 587 Seminar in Neurobiology – change in listing to reflect a cross listing of BIO 587/NEU 587, and in catalog description to read: Survey of current literature in the neurosciences. Topics include molecular and behavioral electrophysiology, ion channels, nerve net modelling, ultrastructure of excitable cells, receptor and pharmacological neurobiology of invertebrates and vertebrates.

Department of Plant Sciences and Entomology

BIO 572/ENT 586 Medical and Veterinary Entomology – change in course number to BIO 586/ENT 586

3) College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Mathematics

MTH 513 Linear Algebra – change in credits from 3 to 4 and in description to read: Linear spaces and transformations, eigenvalues and eigenvectors, invariant subspaces, inner products, orthogonal projections, norms, minimizations, spectral theorem, the Cayley-Hamilton, Jordan canonical form, singular value decomposition.

Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures

SPA 588 Seminar in Colonial Spanish-American Literature – change in description to read: Topics of interest dealing with the development of Spanish-American cultural identity and literature from the period of discovery and colonization to independence (Seminar) Pre: graduate standing or permission of the instructor. May be repeated with different topic and permission of instructor

New Courses:

1) Graduate School
Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Program

NEU 501 Introduction to the Neurosciences (4)
This survey course will introduce 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.

2) College of the Environment and Life Sciences
Department of Biological Sciences

BIO 500 Advanced Science Ethics (1)
This course focuses on the ethics of scientific research using case studies to inform discussion on common ethical issues in science. Pre: Graduate standing or permission from the instructor
**BIO 501 Advanced Scientific Communication (2)**
This course focuses on the process of writing and reviewing scientific manuscripts and grant proposals. Pre: Graduate standing or permission from the instructor.

**BIO 553 Regulatory Processes in Eucaryotic Cells (3)**
Regulation of eucaryotic cell biology by processes governing organization and function, including transport, protein sorting, signal transduction, gene expression and changes in the cytoskeleton. Focus on GTP-binding proteins and protein kinases. (Lec. 3) Pre: BCH 311 or graduate standing.

**BIO/NRS 585X Salt Marsh Ecology (4)**
Structure and function of salt marsh ecosystems, including biogeochemistry, in the context of global change. Seminar-style discussions, weekly assignments, written and oral presentations of independent proposal and research project. Pre: For graduate students, permission of the instructor is required for enrollment. Prior undergraduate coursework equivalent to a course in ecology and 2 semesters of chemistry is expected.

**BIO/NRS 585 Salt Marsh Ecology (4)**
Structure and function of salt marsh ecosystems, including biogeochemistry, in the context of global change. Seminar-style discussions, weekly assignments, written and oral presentations of independent proposal and research project. Pre: For graduate students, permission of the instructor is required for enrollment. Prior undergraduate coursework equivalent to a course in ecology and 2 semesters of chemistry is expected.

3) College of Pharmacy
   Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences

**BPS 540 Advanced Drug Delivery Systems (3)**
The course will present the design and principles of advanced drug delivery systems, which have specified drug delivery profiles and significant advantages in therapeutics over conventional dosage forms. Pre: Students should have basic understanding of pharmaceutical formulations and physical chemistry before choosing this course.

V. **New Programs Committee**

VI. **Old Business**
   A. A.C.E. Language Institutes and their potential relationship to graduate education at URI – a presentation by a representative of the Institutes followed by a discussion regarding how to move forward.

   B. ‘Last Semester Status’ – an explanation of this policy and a discussion of whether this policy should legitimately apply to students in non-thesis programs.
C. 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”

VII. Graduate School Manual


11.22. Authorization to schedule a defense: Once the defense committee has been established, the next step is to secure the approval of every member of the committee to proceed with the defense and to establish a date and time for the defense. Approval signifies that the thesis/dissertation is in a form acceptable for defense and that it is, in fact, defensible. The requirement that the document be acceptable and defendable means that it 1) is complete and contains all text, data, tables, charts, maps, photographs, appendices, full references, citations, and/or bibliographies as required by accepted standards of academic integrity, 2) represents the finished scholarly product of the student’s research ready for final printing and in the format required for binding, and 3) is free of obvious fatal flaws that could prevent a successful defense.

VIII. New Business

IX. Adjournment