To: Members of the 2013-2014 Graduate Council
From: Nasser Zawia, Dean
Keith Killingbeck, Associate Dean
Date: September 2013
RE: Agenda for Meeting Number 473 of the Graduate Council to be held on
Monday 9 September 2013 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 472, 22 April 2013

III. Announcements

A. Introduction of members of the 2013-2014 Graduate Council

B. 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>HANY ALASHWAL</td>
<td>PHARMACY</td>
<td>4/29/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>ZAHRA MEGHANI</td>
<td>PHILOSOPHY</td>
<td>5/6/2013</td>
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<td>ROBERT POMEROY</td>
<td>MARINE AFFAIRS</td>
<td>6/26/2013</td>
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<td>OMAR EL AGNAF</td>
<td>PHARMACY</td>
<td>7/3/2013</td>
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<td>ERIC HARSTAD</td>
<td>PHARMACY</td>
<td>7/3/2013</td>
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<td>RONALD OBACH</td>
<td>PHARMACY</td>
<td>7/3/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>TIMOTHY TOOLAN</td>
<td>ELECTRICAL, COMP, &amp; BIOMED ENG</td>
<td>7/3/2013</td>
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<td>ALAN ROTHMAN</td>
<td>CELL AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY</td>
<td>7/3/2013</td>
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<td>NICOLAS BLOUIN</td>
<td>BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES</td>
<td>7/25/2013</td>
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<td>ELIZABETH FALLON</td>
<td>KINESIOLOGU</td>
<td>8/1/2013</td>
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<td>SUZANNE MELLO STARK</td>
<td>COMPUTER SCIENCE</td>
<td>8/9/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>MICHAEL PENNELL</td>
<td>WRITING &amp; RHETORIC</td>
<td>8/9/2013</td>
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C. Graduate School forms – electronic signatures and electronic submission.

D. Process for selecting a keynote speaker for the graduate commencement.

E. Process for selecting a Graduate School ‘Rising Star’ for the University Distinguished Alumni Awards Ceremony

F. Enhancement of Graduate Research Awards

G. Graduate Faculty Summit, 15 October 2013

H. Update on the continuing discussion of the proposal by the Graduate Council to replace the wording in the University Manual that guides all processes related to Graduate Faculty Status.

IV. Committees
A. Nomination of a Nominating Committee and solicitation of requests for participation in standing committees

B. Review of charges to, and goals of committees for this year’s Council

V. Topics for Discussion – The Graduate School Manual

A. GSM Section 8.43.2 -- consideration of a change from “The doctoral committee is composed of the major professor as chair and two additional members of the Graduate Faculty. The second member of the committee is usually a member of the same department, in the same discipline, or in one closely related to it” to from “The doctoral committee is composed of at least a major professor as chair and two additional members of the Graduate Faculty. The second member of the committee is usually a member of the same department, in the same discipline, or in one closely related to it”

B. GSM Section 7.43 -- consideration of a change that will serve as an example related to the switch from paper submissions to electronic submissions -- 7.43 Program of Study. It is in the best interests of graduate students to be guided in their work by a well designed Program of Study. Each student enrolled in a master's degree program shall submit four signed copies of a Program of Study to the Dean of the Graduate School for approval. After a program has been approved, changes can be made by submitting a revised new Program of Study for approval to the Dean of the Graduate School, signed by the major professor, the student, and the Graduate Program Director. Permission is sought to make these types of editorial changes throughout the GSM.

C. GSM 7.44.5 -- consideration of an addition to the Oral Defense of Thesis section of the GSM (7.44.5) to match the language in Section 7.58.1, Oral Defense of Dissertation. The added language would be this............" Passing the oral defense of the dissertation thesis does not automatically imply that the dissertation thesis is acceptable as defended. The dissertation thesis will be approved only after all the corrections stipulated by the dissertation thesis defense committee are incorporated in the thesis in final form. For dissertations theses judged to be acceptable except for typing errors and/or minor changes in style or content, the major professor or Chair of the dissertation thesis examining committee is responsible for certifying that all corrections have been made. For dissertations theses judged to be acceptable only after significant changes in content are made, the major professor and any defense committee members so designated at the defense will be responsible for certifying that all corrections have been made."

D. GSM 7.44.2.1 and 7.53 -- consideration of the addition of two new sections to call attention to a much needed form to establish a student’s program committee.

7.44.2.1 Establishment of a Graduate Program Committee (Required): The composition of a graduate program committee, also termed thesis committee, is described in Section 8.42.2. This committee is established with the form titled ‘Establishment of a Graduate Program Committee’ before, or at the same time as the submission of a Program of Study.

7.53 Establishment of a Graduate Program Committee. The composition of a graduate program committee, also termed doctoral committee, is described in Section 8.43.2. This committee is established with the form titled ‘Establishment of a Graduate Program Committee’ before, or at the same time as the submission of a Program of Study.

E. GSM Section 7.56 -- consideration of a change that pertains to the submission of dissertation proposals. The wording below after “TO” is based on suggestions from the Graduate Council at our February and March 2013 meetings. No change is proposed for the ‘one-semester’ policy for master’s proposals.
FROM -- “In all cases, however, the proposal must be submitted at least one semester before the semester in which the dissertation itself is to be submitted and defended.

TO -- In all cases, however, the proposal must be submitted a) during or before the seventh semester in which a doctoral student is enrolled in their program, and b) at least ..... possible choices [A] = two semesters before the semester in which the dissertation itself is to be submitted and defended; [B] = 6, 8, or 10 months before the dissertation is defended.

The section as it reads now is reproduced in its entirety below

“7.56 Dissertation Proposal. A dissertation proposal is required of all doctoral students and is intended to describe a problem to be investigated and provide details regarding how the research will be performed and reported. Approval signifies that it meets the standards of the University of Rhode Island for the doctoral degree. The proposal should present the required information as concisely and clearly as possible. The ability to describe concisely a research problem and methodology is one of the skills that the dissertation proposal process is designed to develop. Therefore, dissertation proposals are limited in length to the signature cover-sheet plus 15 or fewer double-spaced, numbered pages in a font size no smaller than 12 point. Proposals longer than this will not be accepted, however, appendices and references are not included in the 15-page limit. Proposals should be submitted before substantial research has been completed, typically during the first or second semester in which the student registers for research credits. In all cases, however, the proposal must be submitted at least one semester before the semester in which the dissertation itself is to be submitted and defended. Complete details for the appropriate development, preparation, and submission of a dissertation proposal can be found on the Graduate School website (www.uri.edu/gsadmis/). Proposals will be returned for revision if they do not contain the appropriate sections described in the Proposal Instructions.”

F. GSM Sections 7.43 and 7.52 -- Programs of Study - possible wording changes are provided below. The words underlined represent the possible changes.

7.43 Program of Study. It is in the best interests of graduate students to be guided in their work by a well-designed Program of Study. Each student enrolled in a master's degree program shall submit four signed copies of (delete) a Program of Study to the Dean of the Graduate School for approval. Students must submit a Program of Study as soon as is practicable, but not later than the end of the third semester of their enrollment as full time students or by the end of the fourth semester of enrollment as a part-time student. Failure to submit a Program of Study during this period may result in enrollment blocks or suspension of graduate study until such a program is submitted. (see Section 9.10 for course distribution requirements). Signatures required include those of the student, major professor, and the Graduate Program Director or department Chair. The Program of Study includes courses that are to be taken for program credit, and those that are to be taken without program credit to remedy deficiencies, or for the student's personal satisfaction. Courses that are to be taken without program credit must be so designated before they are taken if failing grades are not to be included in the calculation of the student's overall grade point average, except as provided in Section 9. After a program has been approved, changes can be made by submitting a revised Program of Study for approval to the Dean of the Graduate School, signed by the major professor, the student, and the Graduate Program
Director. Forms to be used for submitting the Program of Study are available at the Graduate School website.

7.52 Program of Study. Each doctoral student shall submit a Program of Study to the Dean of the Graduate School for approval. Students must submit a Program of Study as soon as is practicable, but no later than the end of the third semester of their enrollment as full time students or by the end of the fourth semester of enrollment as a part-time student. Failure to submit a Program of Study during this period may result in enrollment blocks or suspension of graduate study until such a program is submitted. After a program has been approved, changes can be made by a petition for approval to the Dean of the Graduate School, signed by all members of the doctoral committee, the student and the Graduate Program Director. Each doctoral student shall submit at least six copies (three copies plus one copy for each member of the Ph.D. committee) of the a Program of Study signed by all members of the doctoral committee (see 8.43.2), the student, and the Graduate Program Director. The Program of Study should specify the courses that are to be taken for program credit (see Section 9.20 for course distribution requirements) and those that are to be taken without program credit, to remedy deficiencies, or for the student's satisfaction. Courses in the Program of Study listed to be taken without program credit must be so designated before they are taken; if they are not, grades in these courses will be included in the calculation of the student's Grade Point Average. Forms to be used for reporting the Program of Study are available at the Graduate School website (www.uri.edu/gsadmis/).

VI. Policies Guiding Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Programs

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business

IX. Adjournment