University of Rhode Island  
The Graduate School  
Graduate Council Meeting No. 429, September 29, 2008  
MINUTES


Others Present:  Associate Dean Harold Bibb, Associate Dean Keith Killingbeck, Ms. Megan Verry

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by Associate Dean Harold Bibb.

II. The Minutes of Meeting No. 428 were approved.

III. Announcements

A. Recent Appointments to the Graduate Faculty
   Asst. Prof. Yuwen Chen – Business Administration
   Asst. Prof. Zhen Cai – Business Administration
   Adjunct Prof. Xuanjuan Chen – Business Administration
   Asst. Prof. Yan Xu – Business Administration

B. Associate Dean Keith Killingbeck reported that the Graduate Manual Revision Committee will be meeting soon to continue working toward finishing the recommendations for revisions to the manual. Some items may be brought forth to the Graduate Council before the whole document is finished.

C. Associate Dean Keith Killingbeck announced the recipients of the 2008 awards of excellence. The awards were for excellence in doctoral research for students graduating in December 2007 or May 2008, as nominated by faculty members. There were two categories, STEM and non-STEM. The non-STEM award winner was Claire Reynolds from the English Department, nominated by Professor Josie Campbell. There were co-winners for the STEM category, Liquin Zhang from Chemical Engineering, nominated by Professor Michael Greenfield and Shannon Gerry from Biological Sciences Department, nominated by Professor Cheryl Wilga. A request has been made to the Provost’s office for funds to accompany the award. Funds were promised and the amounts will be announced when the checks are received.

D. Associate Dean Killingbeck reported that the formal announcement of the interactive electronic course proposal process will be sent out as soon as the dates and times for three possible workshops are confirmed. The workshops will be administered by Eric Benevides for all who wish to learn the new submission process. Acrobat Reader 7.0 or higher will be needed and is available, for free, via the link at the Graduate School Website.

E. Associate Dean Harold Bibb reported that the Graduate School Systems Information Technologist has moved to a higher job category at Undergraduate Admissions. The
Graduate School is working to get an upgrade of this open position. This will help our ability to retain the person that will fill the position.

IV. New Business

A. Associate Dean Bibb presented a tentative composition of Graduate Council Sub-Committees. This was reviewed and approved by Council members.

V. Old Business

A. During meeting #427, CVE 645X was given tentative approval pending a favorable library statement as well as the resolution of various issues posed by Council members. Associate Dean Keith Killingbeck presented the resolutions to those various issues. Council members voted to give tentative approval for CVE 645X pending a favorable library statement.

VII. The meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

VIII. Post-Meeting Notes

A. Associate Dean Harold Bibb reported that the Provost was actively working to fill the open Dean of the Graduate School position. The Provost is looking to fill the position internally as a half-time position.

B. Professor Wayne Lee invited all to the 21st annual Rhode Island Transportation Forum to be held on Friday, November 7th, 2008 at various places across the URI campus. He passed out brochures detailing the events to Council members.

C. Matthew Freeman invited members of the Council to a two-day round table discussion hosted by the Graduate Students Association. The goal is to provide information for those looking to become faculty members at colleges and universities.