I. The meeting was called to order at 2:06 pm by Interim Dean Zawia.

II. The Minutes of Meeting No. 448 were approved pending clarification of New Business point A.

III. Announcements

A. Interim Dean Zawia reminded the members serving on committees regarding student grants that information is available for review and reviews are due 24 November 2010

B. Interim Dean Zawia recognized recent appointments to the Graduate Faculty

Mark Cantwell, Adjunct Professor, Department of Oceanography
Penelope Pooler, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Natural Resources Science
Iztok Lebar Bajek, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science and Statistics
Jason Kolbe, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Biological Sciences
Stephen Parman, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Geosciences
Bethany Hamilton-Jones, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Education
Dawn Cardace, Assistant Professor, Department of Geosciences

IV. Committees

A. Curriculum Committee

Changes Approved
BPS 523 Seminar I – delete course
BPS 524 Seminar II – delete course
BPS 599 Masters Thesis Research – change course number
PHP 599 Masters Thesis Research – delete course
BPS 693 Seminar I – change course number
PHP 693 Seminar I – delete course
BPS 694 Seminar II – change course number
PHP 694 Seminar II – delete course
BPS 699 Doctoral Dissertation Research – change course number
PHP 699 Doctoral Dissertation Research – delete course
LSC 522 College and University Library Service – change in prerequisite
LSC 523 Special Library Service – change in prerequisite
LSC 527 Information Literacy Instruction – change in prerequisite
LSC 539 Business Information – change in prerequisite
LSC 540 Humanities Information and Materials – change in prerequisite
LSC 541 Social Science Information - change in prerequisite
LSC 542 Library Materials in Science and Technology - change in prerequisite
LSC 543 Government Publications - change in prerequisite
LSC 545 Indexing and Abstracting - change in prerequisite
LSC 547 Information Storage and Retrieval and Online Searching and Services - change in prerequisite
LSC 550 Organization of Digital and Nonbook Resources – change in prerequisite

New Courses Approved
EVS 501 Development of Learning Outcomes for MESM (1)
EVS 502 Seminar in Environmental Science and Management (1)

Tabled
FLM 445 Advanced Topics in Documentary Film Production
MTH 555 Dynamic Systems
TMD 532 Fashion Retail Supply Chain Management
TMD 552 Consumer Behavior in Fashion Retailing

Additional Curricular Matters Approved
1) College of Arts and Sciences
   Department of Mathematics

   Provisional approval was granted to the Department of Mathematics regarding the Applied Mathematical Sciences program pending clarification of course/credit requirements as well as faculty/program affiliations.

2) College of Business Administration
   Department of Business Administration

   Approval granted to change in catalog regarding part-time MBA with revised wording to add MBA 550

3) College of Nursing
Approval was unanimously granted for the proposed specialization of Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (ACNP). This is a specialization that has been repeatedly requested by staff and students. The personnel needed to support this specialization are in place, students are waiting to enroll and all other issues regarding the forward movement of this specialization have been addressed. The Curricular Committee was supportive of this specialization as this would fulfill a need on the campus and in the community.

B. New Program Committee

Council member Lori Ciccomascolo chaired the New Program Committee on behalf of Interim Dean Zawia and presented information for the newly proposed Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Program (INP). This will be the first interdisciplinary program to be housed solely at the Graduate School involving numerous Colleges including Arts & Science, Engineering, HSS, CELS and Pharmacy as well as a dozen or more departments. The program will be run by an executive committee whose members will be nominated by participating colleges. The program will offer both Master’s and PhD options that will meet program obligations while offering “broad instruction across several neuroscience disciplines”. All courses are pre-existing on campus and there are currently 32 faculty available to teach the coursework. Concerns were raised that the funding needed to develop this program may be allocated from existing programs. Interim Dean Zawia addressed this saying that funding would not be drawn from other programs but would be obtained from grants, outside funding and graduate funding. Another issue was raised regarding the degree or certificate granting agency, be it the college of coursework specialization or the Neuroscience program. Interim Dean Zawia clarified that the INP will offer certificates to students not wishing to major in Neuroscience and likewise other departments or programs could offer Neuroscience majors a certificate in their discipline. A motion for consideration of this new program was made at the meeting and seconded but the decision for approval was made via write-in vote with 8 members in favor, 1 opposed. According to the University Manual Section 5.16, a quorum for the Graduate Council is 9 members, there was a quorum. Approval was granted for the proposed Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Program (INP).

V. Presentations – Due to time constraints, Associate Dean Killingbeck postponed the presentation on graduate student learning outcomes assessment at URI until the next meeting.
VI. Policy Issues – The council discussed the issue of the number of 400-level course credits that can be used in a Master’s degree Program of Study. It was agreed that the reference in Section 9.11 of the Graduate Manual should be interpreted to mean that up to half of the non-research course credits in a Program of Study can be from 400-level courses. The vote was unanimous. As an example of this interpretation, in a Program of Study with a total of 30 credits, 6 of which are for Master’s research credits, only 12 credits or fewer of 400-level coursework can be included.

VII. New Business - none addressed

VIII. Old Business – none addressed

IX. Meeting adjourned at 4:03 pm