University of Rhode Island
The Graduate School
Graduate Council Meeting No. 458, 21 November 2011
MINUTES

Council Members Present: Gary Stoner, Brian Gallagher, Rebecca Robinson, Naomi Mandel, Gerhard Muller, Martin Sadd, Scott Martin, Megan O’Brien, Noel Burgess, Katherine Boden, Woong Kook, Graham Forrester and Henry Oppenheimer

Council Members Not Present: Larry Englander, Terry Deeney, David Rowley, Mary Sullivan and Kevin McClure.

Others Present: Dean Nasser Zawia, Associate Dean Keith Killingbeck, Dr. Alycia Austin, Ms. Megan Yakey, Dr. John Stevenson

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm by Dean Zawia.

II. The Minutes of Meeting No. 457 were approved.

III. Announcements

A. Dean Zawia thanked everyone for participating in the inaugural Graduate School Retreat, 18 November 2011, noting its tremendous importance in improving graduate education. He discussed the retreat and asked for the input of the Council members. Glowing reports of the event and the personnel involved were given. Members noted the need for a quick summary of the event and the wish to see the results of this event. Dean Zawia stated that this would happen and input from faculty will be gladly accepted. Other members stated that they would like to see more of such events in the future with some more advanced planning and more active discussions.

B. Dean Zawia mentioned that EGRA review information is due on Monday 11/28. Fellowship and Scholarship documents and information will be uploaded this week to the Sakai site for review. A meeting will be scheduled for group review and discussion about the documents involved.

C. Associate Dean Killingbeck recognized recent appointments to the Graduate Faculty

Elizabeth McQuaid, Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Psychology
Shanna Person-Merkowitz, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science
Robert Dilworth, Professor, Department of Art and Art History
Alycia Mosely-Austin, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Biological Sciences
Elizabeth Cottrell, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Geosciences
Carla Lambertini, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Natural Resources Science
Sheng Lu, Assistant Professor, Department of Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design

IV. Committees

A. Curriculum Committee

**Changes Approved**

- CSC 440 Algorithms and Data Structures
- CVE 580 Consolidation, Seepage, and Clay Mineralogy
- CVE 583 (OCE 583) Deep Foundations
- CVE 585 Soil Dynamics
- CVE 587 Groundwater Flow and Seepage Pressures
- CVE 687 Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering
- TMD 503 Topics in Textile Science
- TMD 530 Historic Textile Internship
- TMD 558 Topics in Textile Conservation
- TMD 570 Topics in Historic Textiles or Costume

**New Courses Approved**

- EDC 400 Middle School Curriculum, Assessment, and Methods
- EDC 415 Adolescents and Classroom Management
- CSC 420 Introduction to Information Assurance
- CSC 423 Network Security and Intrusion Detection
- HDF 536 Family Dynamics and Health
- MBA 516 Professional Writing, Speaking and Presenting (Conditional Approval)
- MBA 517 Business Foundations I
- MBA 518 Business Foundations II
- MBA 519 Customer and Project analysis
- MBA 520 Objectives and Metrics
- MBA 521 Situation Analysis and Solution Development
- MBA 522 Business Process Improvement and Sustainability
- MBA 523 Risk Assessment, Change and Control
- MBA 524 Innovation, Process and Performance
- MBA 525 Business Innovation Process
- MBA 526 Product and Service Management
- MBA 527 Protection Contracts and Intellectual Property
- MBA 528 Innovation Enterprises and Information Technology
- MBA 529 Career Planning

**Tabled**

- MIC 422 Biotechnology of Industrial Microorganisms
- CSC 424 Live Forensics and Incident Response
V. Old Business

A. Dean Zawia and Associate Dean Killingbeck addressed the issue of allowing Adjunct Professors to serve as major advisors; both positives and negatives were discussed. Whereas there may be benefits to students there are some serious drawbacks as well. Some drawbacks include lack of commitment, accountability and understanding of policy and rules that can come with faculty advisement by professors outside of the URI community. Some members discussed the previously mentioned idea of co-advising, with one member of the co-advisors being a tenured or tenure track professor at URI, to offset the drawbacks. After much discussion of the pros and cons, a motion was made and seconded to approve the following statement:

Adjunct Faculty cannot serve as sole Major Advisors on thesis or dissertation committees.

A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

B. Associate Dean Killingbeck gave a brief recount of an issue involving the lack of definition in the language governing the level of coursework required of graduate students to maintain “continuous enrollment”. Proposed wording to clearly define the issue was offered.

4.40 Continuous Enrollment
Graduate students are required to remain continuously enrolled in graduate-level credits until they have completed all requirements and have received their degrees.

A motion was made to table the proposed wording (underlined above) for further consideration. The result was 6 votes of “aye”, 4 of “nay” and 3 abstentions. The matter was tabled and will be reviewed at a future meeting.

VI. New Business – Due to time constraints, this matter was not addressed.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 4:09 pm