Council Members Present: Gary Stoner, Kevin McClure, Rebecca Robinson, Naomi Mandel, Gerhard Muller, Terry Deeney, David Rowley, Megan O’Brien, Noel Burgess, Katherine Boden, Scott Martin, Pete August, Mayrai Gindy, Mustafa Kulenovic, Henry Oppenheimer and Brian Gallagher.

Council Members Not Present: Mary Sullivan and Larry Englander.

Others Present: Dean Nasser Zawia, Associate Dean Keith Killingbeck, Dr. John Stevenson and Michelle Grambley.

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:04 pm by Associate Dean Killingbeck.

II. The Minutes of Meeting No. 459 were approved.

III. Announcements

A. Associate Dean Killingbeck announced the recent additions to the Graduate Faculty
   LISA COLBURN MARINE AFFAIRS 11/10/2011
   JESPER RAAKJAER MARINE AFFAIRS 11/10/2011
   ELIZABETH FALLON HEALTH STUDIES PROGRAM 12/2/2011
   ALLISON HARPER KINESIOLOGY 12/2/2011
   JENNIFER AUDETTE PHYSICAL THERAPY 12/14/2011
   EMILY CLAPHAM KINESIOLOGY 12/20/2011
   GREG MEHOS CHEMICAL ENGINEERING 12/22/2011
   ROBERT WIDELL HISTORY 12/22/2011
   MARK COMERFORD MATHEMATICS 12/27/2011
   LARS ERICKSON MODERN LANGUAGES, FRENCH 1/13/2012

B. Associate Dean Killingbeck reminded the Council about the deadline for receipt of nominations for the Excellence in Doctoral Research Awards on 15 February. He also discussed the requirements of one letter of support and an abstract that must accompany each nomination.

C. Associate Dean Killingbeck discussed the outcome of the recently enacted system for ‘automated time-to-degree enrollment holds.’ The system places holds on enrollment for those students approaching the time limit for completion of their degree in order to alert them to the fact that they have approximately a year left. He reviewed issues to date with the system including the fact that it is taking much longer than expected to review each of the incoming requests for explanation about the holds. All of the requests are being reviewed on a case-by-case basis as some glitches exist regarding holds on students with previous Leaves of Absence and those who took non-matriculated coursework which is being counted as part
of their 5 or 7 year allowance. Overall it is a good policy and will help both students and faculty to stay on time to degree completion.

D. Associate Dean Killingbeck gave a brief update on the upcoming changes to grade point averages for graduate students. Enrollment Services will be calculating GPAs for students based on grades in any and all 400-level (‘for graduate credit’ 400-level courses) and above coursework and GPAs will be listed on transcripts once the system is in place. GPA will no longer be based solely on the classes listed on the Program of Study. The Intellectual Opportunity Credits provision of the Graduate School Manual (Section 4.80) will allow students to take a limited number of credits in areas removed from the focus of their studies on an S/U basis, thus allowing them to explore areas without the fear of lowering their GPA. Associate Dean Killingbeck assured the group that issues would be reviewed as they arise and the policy amended if needed.

IV. Committees

A. Curriculum Committee

Changes Approved
SPA 472 Topics in Hispanic Literature
CSC 491 Directed Study in Computer Science
GEO/NRS/EVS 482 Innovative Subsurface Remediation Technologies
EEC 528 Microeconomic Theory
CSC 591 Directed Study in Computer Science
CSC 592 Special Topics in Computer Science

New Courses Approved
BCH 482 Proteins and Enzymes (Conditional approval based on new syllabus and proposal)

Tabled
MIC 422 Biotechnology of Industrial Microorganisms
EEC 497 Internship in Environmental Economics
MLS 580 Quality Management Systems I: Org. and Leadership
MLS 581 Clinical Research
MLS 571 Biotechnology Product Evaluation and Development
NEU 501 Introduction to the Neurosciences

Additional Curricular Matters
College of Pharmacy has presented a plan to clarify the requirements for their MS and PhD programs. Discussion ensued regarding the use of a number of specific courses to take the place of a qualifying exam. The reasoning being that
with numerous specialties it is difficult to establish one exam representative of all specialties. Members noted that other programs are allowed to use this method to establish a student’s ability to succeed in a PhD program. A motion was made to accept the changes provided by Pharmacy. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. New Programs Committee

I. Dean Zawia reviewed the Cyber Security Certificate Proposal. Note was made that the proposal has not been signed off on by LOOC and SLOAA. A motion was made to approve the proposal. Approval was granted based on the provision that the applicable signatures were acquired for the paperwork.

II. Dean Zawia and Associate Dean Killingbeck discussed the current rules regarding post-baccalaureate certificates and raised the question of whether those rules should be revisited. According to the enabling legislation, any new post-baccalaureate certificate being proposed cannot require any new courses. This legislation makes it impossible to propose any certificate program that will require new courses. Given that new courses cannot be proposed outside of an existing program, this leaves no redress for anyone proposing a new certificate program that requires new courses. In an effort to amend and streamline the process, a motion was made to allow the proposal of new courses to be concurrent with the proposal for corresponding, new post-baccalaureate certificate programs. The motion was approved with 13 affirmative votes and one dissenting vote.

V. Old Business

A. Dean Zawia and Associate Dean Killingbeck revisited the issue of co-major advisors. After discussion of new proposed wording for section 8.32 of the Graduate School Manual a motion was made to accept the following wording:

At least one of the co-major professors must be a tenure-track faculty member from the student’s home department/program.

The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Dean Zawia updated the council on the 2012 Scholarship/Fellowship Awards including a brief overview of the timeline and process involved.

C. GFS policy - Due to time constraints, this matter was not addressed.

D. Program of Study hold initiative - Due to time constraints, this matter was not addressed.
E. A.C.E. Language Institutes - Due to time constraints, this matter was not addressed.

VI. Policy Issues and Initiatives – Due to time constraints, this topic was not addressed.

VII. New Business – Due to time constraints, this topic was not addressed.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 4:09 pm