Council Members Present: Peter August, Denise Coppa, David Faflik, Michael Greenfield, Brenton DeBoef, Stephen Kogut, Rainer Lohmann, Julia Lovett, Karen McCurdy, Scott McWilliams, Libby Miles, Daniel Sheinin, Evelyn Sterne, Devon Swanson, Lubos Thoma

Council Members Not Present: Jacqueline Britto, Matt Luby, Matt Porter

Others Present: Dean Nasser Zawia, Associate Dean Keith Killingbeck, Megan Yakey

I. Call to order at 2:03 PM by Dean Zawia

II. Minutes of Meeting Number 484 were approved

III. Announcements

A. Associate Dean Killingbeck recognized recent additions to the Graduate Faculty

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Breea Govenar</td>
<td>Biological Sciences</td>
<td>11/18/2014</td>
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<td>John Andries</td>
<td>Chemical Engineering</td>
<td>11/18/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christopher Melhus</td>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>11/18/2014</td>
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<td>Michael Beland</td>
<td>Physics</td>
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<td>Edward Walsh</td>
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<td>Michael Price</td>
<td>Physics</td>
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<td>James Brindle</td>
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<td>Nolan Gagne</td>
<td>Physics</td>
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<td>Teven Crocker</td>
<td>Ocean Engineering</td>
<td>11/19/2014</td>
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<td>Daniel Udwary</td>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
<td>11/19/2014</td>
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B. Associate Dean Killingbeck informed Council that the Graduate Manual is published and live.

C. Dean Zawia updated Council on the 2014 Graduate Faculty Summit to be held December 9th at the Hardge Forum in the Multicultural Center. There are two areas of focus, Student Support and Enrollment. A draft of both the agenda and the panel talking points was reviewed. He asked Council to remind and encourage their colleges to attend.

D. Enhancement of Graduate Research Awards (EGRA) raw scores were circulated. Dean Zawia noted that no notifications have been sent out yet as we have not secured funding from the Division of Research. We hope to distribute at least 20 awards. Rainer Lohmann will normalize scores and based on that scale we will distribute awards.
E. Associate Dean Killingbeck announced that Scott McWilliams was featured in Rhode Island Monthly and passed the article around.

IV. Committees
A. Nominating Committee – Council Member August informed Council of his conversation with Richard Wurman regarding the possibility of being a speaker at the 2015 Commencement. Dean Zawia will speak with him tomorrow via phone. Dean Zawia also spoke to Council regarding another potential speaker, Frank Savage. It was decided that Council would vote to rank the choices. If the first choice falls through, the next choice will be pursued.
   a. Votes for Wurman-11
   b. Votes for Savage-4

B. New Program Committee
   a. Graduate Certificate in Community Planning - approved
   b. Master of Science in Dietetics - approved
   c. Master of Science in Finance - approved

C. Curriculum committee –
   Changes Approved
   HDF 578 Ethical, Legal, and Professional Concerns in Family Therapy
   NUR 660 Philosophical and Theoretical Bases of Healthcare Research

   New Courses Approved
   EEC 430 Water Course Economics
   OCG 530 Principles of Ocean Circulation

   Courses Deleted
   ELE 427 Electromechanical Systems
   ELE 428 Electromechanical Systems Laboratory

   Additional Curricular Matters
   Proposal to add 1 credit to the PhD program in Nursing – approved
   Proposal to add 1 credit to the DNP program in Nursing that was approved at the October meeting of the Council will now be added to the curriculum report to the Faculty Senate given that the changes to NUR 660 were approved earlier in this meeting

V. Topics for Discussion
A. Methods of updating the Graduate School Manual – Council Member August spoke to the topic of the lag in time between when a change in the Graduate School Manual is approved and when it is published in the Graduate School Manual. Options for dealing with this issue were discussed, including the suggestion to update the manual every year. If time permits, this may be the best option. The Graduate School will continue to post the minutes and agendas of Council meetings on our website.
B. Determining scores for scholarship/fellowship/EGRA nominations/applications was discussed earlier in the meeting. Rainer Lohmann volunteered to normalize the scores this year, and Michael Greenfield agreed to help him with this task. If it works well it will be implemented each year.

Michael Greenfield and Libby Miles volunteered to work with John Stevenson to develop rubrics to assist reviewers in the evaluation of EGRA proposals and scholarship/fellowship nominations.

C. Scott McWilliams opened a discussion regarding program committee membership for students in the CELS Biological and Environmental Sciences degree program. The issue is whether ‘inside’ faculty membership on a student’s program committee can be determined in some way other than using department affiliation as the determining factor. This issue will continue to be tackled after the Council and Graduate School have an opportunity to seek out models used at other universities.

Council requested that this become a topic for discussion after the Graduate School has done due diligence.

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business

VI. Adjournment at 3:55pm