Council Members Present: Peter August, Denise Coppa, Kathleen Davis, Michael Greenfield, Elizabeth Kohr, Robert Laforge, Beth Leonardo, Julia Lovett, Lindsay McLennan, Abran Salazar, Daniel Sheinin, Angela Slitt, Lubos Thoma, Karen Wishner

Not Present: Jacqueline Britto, Marc Hutchison, Karen McCurdy, Scott McWilliams,

Others Present: Dean Nasser Zawia, Associate Dean Andrea Rusnock, Megan Yakey, Alycia Mosley Austin, Kristin Johnson

I. **Call to order** at 2:30PM by Dean Zawia with a welcome to the new members and an overview of what the Graduate Council is responsible for. Introductions were made around the table.

II. **Minutes** of Meeting Number 490 were approved. 7 yay, 1 nay, 6 abstentions, minutes were approved.

III. Graduate degrees and certificates to be awarded for Summer 2015 were approved unanimously.

IV. **Announcements**

   A. Associate Dean Rusnock informed Council of the recipient of the 2015 Distinguished Achievement Rising Star Award, Robinson W. Fulweiler. “Wally” received her doctorate in Oceanography in 2007. She is an Associate Professor at Boston University and does a lot of outreach at the high school level and community.

   B. Dean Zawia indicated to Council that the Enhancement of Graduate Research Awards (EGRA) call for proposals is open. The deadline for submissions is 12 October 2015 at 4PM. Once submissions are received all Council members will be required to log into Sakai and review their specific proposals. It was asked that several reminders be sent out to Council members. We will review the rubric and procedure at the next Council meeting.

   C. Associate Dean Rusnock introduced Kristin Johnson and opened the floor to her to discuss what objectives the Assessment Office will be working on this year.

   D. Dean Zawia updated Council on the most recent Enrollment and Admission numbers. He was happy to report that we have our largest incoming class this year. We will need to concentrate on returning students and retention. We will be looking at specific program enrollment to see where we can help. To be a healthy graduate school we need to have a steady growth of 3-5%, which we currently do not have. We are working hard to improve in that area. It was
proposed that at a future meeting we consider how to help departments market their programs to increase enrollment and/or quality of candidates.

E. Dean Zawia informed Council on the purchase of TransForm, a document management system. We are currently waiting for UCS to provide two virtual servers for this system and then we will move forward with building and implementing this program.

F. Dean Zawia invited Council to a retirement party that will be held for the former associate dean, Keith Killingbeck, on 8 October 2015 from 4PM to 6PM in the atrium of the College of Pharmacy. He asked Council to help spread the word, and to consider being a presenter in this light-hearted roast.

G. Dean Zawia announced that the Graduate Faculty Summit will be held on 14 December 2015 in Hardge Forum and encouraged Council to remind their colleges of the importance of their attendance and input at the summit. We hope to present data from the TA Task Force at that time. Dean Zawia asked if there are any additional topics they can suggest to please forward it to his attention.

H. Associate Dean Rusnock recognized recent additions to the Graduate Faculty

LYNNIE TRZOSS PHARMACY 5/4/2015
THOMAS SHARLAND MATHEMATICS 5/5/2015
WILLIAM KINNERSLEY MATHEMATICS 5/5/2015
MICHAEL BARRUS MATHEMATICS 5/5/2015
VASILJE PEROVIC MATHEMATICS 5/5/2015
PETR PYSEK NATURAL RESOURCES SCIENCE 5/6/2015
JAMES CRONEN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES 5/6/2015
DEBASISH BHATTACHARYA BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES 5/7/2015
MELISSA OMAND GSO 6/4/2015
ANTON POST GSO 6/5/2015
WILLIAM PALM (EMERITUS) MECH, IND, & SYST ENGINEERING 6/8/2015
STEPHEN JORDAN MECH, IND, & SYST ENGINEERING 6/12/2015
JAMES LEBLANC MECH, IND, & SYST ENGINEERING 6/12/2015
THOMAS J. MCGREEVY, JR. NATURAL RESOURCES SCIENCE 7/9/2015
KATE B. CAREY PSYCHOLOGY 7/16/2015
ERICA SCIOLI-SALTER PSYCHOLOGY 7/16/2015
SARAH ZYLINSKI BIOLOGY 7/27/2015
XINYUAN CHEN PHARMACY 7/31/2015
A. DAVID RODRIGUES PHARMACY 8/14/2015
ELIN TORELL MARINE AFFAIRS 8/17/2015
BARRBARA PIERCE NATURAL RESOURCES SCIENCE 8/25/2015
JUSTIN WYATT COMMUNICATION STUDIES 9/4/2015
SCOTT KUSHNER COMMUNICATION STUDIES 9/4/2014
MICHELLE FLIPPIN COMMUNICATIVE DISORDERS 9/4/2015
AMANDA COWAN BUSINESS 9/8/2015
AUSTIN HUMPHRIES BIOLOGY 9/9/2015
GEORGES TSAFACK BUSINESS 9/9/2015
CHRISTY ASHLEY BUSINESS 9/9/2015
ANNA ALDERKAMP BIOLOGY 9/10/2015
COLLEEN DALTON GEOSCIENCES 9/10/2015
ANIS TRIKI BUSINESS 9/10/2015
GRETCHEN MACTH MECH, IND, & SYST ENGINEERING 9/14/2015
V. Committees
   A. Dean Zawia asked for 2 members of Council to participate on the Nomination Committee. Peter August indicated that he would serve. Dean Zawia noted that he would request that another member not present be another participant.
   B. Associate Dean Rusnock reviewed the charges and goals of each of the committees for this year’s Council. Council were then presented with a self-nomination form and asked to rank their top 3 choices of committees. The Graduate School will compile that information and arrange members on committees that are fair and balanced to give good representation to each committee.

VI. New Business
   A. Dean Zawia opened a brief topic on the GAU and external employment of Graduate Students on assistantships. He asked Council to speak with their respective colleges and faculty members to find out what current thoughts and practices on this subject are. He would like to discuss the topic more at the next Council meeting. The idea is acceptable by Council but there was much discussion on clarification of wording. Some proposed wording: Off campus employment does not require University permission but cannot conflict with the duties and responsibilities of the assistantship and the satisfactory progress toward degree completion. Dean Zawia asked for ideas on this to be sent to him and he can propose it to GAU and administration.
   B. Alycia Mosley Austin opened a discussion on Co-authorship on dissertations. A policy needs to be developed to make sure authorship is fairly acknowledged. This will be discussed at length at a future meeting.

VII. Old Business

VIII. Adjournment at 3:59PM