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

II. **Minutes** of Meeting Number 494 were approved

III. **Approval of December 2015 Degrees**

Dean Zawia introduced the December 2015 degree candidates. Council voted to approve these degrees. Dean Zawia will present them to Faculty Senate at the next meeting, Thursday 10 December.

IV. **Announcements**

A. Dean Zawia mentioned two candidates for a commencement speaker that he and Associate Dean Rusnock met and heard speak at the annual conference for the Council of Graduate Schools last week in Seattle. One is a Vice President of Amazon, Dr. Babak Amir Parviz, formally of Google and the creator of Google Glass. The other is the Computational User Experiences Manager of Microsoft, Dr. Desney Tan. Dr. Tan specializes in Human-Computer Interaction and Brain-Computer Interfaces. Both are very dynamic speakers and would be ideal for Commencement speakers. A motion was made for Dean Zawia and Associate Dean Rusnock to pursue either for a speaker, with preference given to Babak, through the Provost and the commencement committee. The motion passed.

B. Dean Zawia updated Council on the status of the Enhancement of Graduate research Awards. Twenty-six proposals were funded. Mike Greenfield spoke to different methods of normalizing the scores. He will review this year’s data to see if there would have been any changes. Council will speak at a future meeting to see how to proceed on this matter in years ahead.

C. Dean Zawia reminded Council that the Graduate Faculty Summit is to be held on Monday, 14 December 2015 at the Multicultural Center, Hardge Forum. The program will start at 8:30AM. Breakfast will be available at 8:15AM. A number of crucial topics will be discussed including retention and growing enrollment, TransForm, graduate student mental health, and the Teaching Assistantship Task Force. An agenda was made available for Council to view. He strongly
encouraged all Council members to attend as well as to encourage those in their colleges to attend as well.

V. Committees  
A. Curriculum committee

New Courses Approved  
ISE445: Facilities Planning and Material Handling

VI. New Business  
A. Teaching Assistant Task Force – Alycia Mosley Austin gave an update to Council regarding the progress of the TA Task Force. She reported briefly on how the committee has progressed with the charges given by the Provost. She noted some issues they have identified so far as well as what they hope to get out of the break out session questions for the Graduate Faculty at the Summit on the 14th. Ultimate goals so far are transparency in distribution and possibly to increase the number of TA’s available across campus.  
B. Health Collaborative; impact of reorganization on Graduate Studies – Associate Dean Rusnock wanted to start the conversation regarding this reorganization. She noted that there are going to be major changes coming up with the move of certain programs and colleges to form the Academic Health Collaborative. College of Health Science (inclusive of Kinesiology, Nutrition, Physical Therapy), College of Pharmacy, and College of Nursing will be going to the new college. Part of this includes where the TAs for those departments/colleges will go and how that will impact not only the new college, but also the other colleges that programs are leaving. She noted that this is a good time to look at how this reorganization impacts Graduate Studies and what other changes can be made that will be beneficial. It was noted that there is no plan yet for a new building for this college.

VII. Old Business

VIII. Adjournment at 3:03 PM