Attachment 1

**Graduate Faculty Council**

***M I N U T E S***

April 17, 2013

Hugh Clark Meeting Room -- Whetten Graduate Center, Room 200

3:00 P.M.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 P.M. 2. It was **moved,** seconded, and passed without dissent on a voice vote to approve as distributed the minutes of the meeting of March 27, 2013.

3. L. Aldridge reported for the Graduate Student Senate (GSS). He noted that there have been discussions concerning the proposal

to build a new student recreational facility and the impact that doing so would have on the fee bills of graduate students.

Concern was expressed that graduate assistantship stipend levels will not increase commensurately should the University decide

to move ahead with construction of the new recreational facility for which students would be paying through required student

fees. Concern also was expressed about the central planning process vis-à-vis student fees. Lastly, Aldridge expressed concern

about the 25% of the Work Study budget that now will have to be borne by departments.

Discussion ensued about framing a resolution that expresses the view of the Graduate Faculty Council that the Dean of the

Graduate School should always be consulted and involved when discussions take place that would result in the increase of

existing fees or the creation of new fees affecting graduate students. A broader resolution was proposed by K. Dennis. She

**moved** the adoption of the following resolution:

The Graduate Faculty Council strongly recommends that any discussions regarding policies or decisions directly

impacting graduate students and the Graduate School be undertaken in consultation with the Dean of the

Graduate School.

The motion was seconded, and it **passed** without dissent on a voice vote. Three were three abstentions.

4. An updated, fully-revised draft of the Graduate School’s *Complaint Resolution Procedure* was considered for final action. There

was discussion. A number of minor edits were proposed and accepted. Members agreed to a significant deletion in the first

paragraph (beginning “For the purposes . . .” through the end of the paragraph).

It was **moved** (P. Britner), seconded (R. Bass), and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote to approve the document as modified

at this meeting.

5. Members considered proposed revisions to the *Termination, Dismissal, and Hearing Procedures* section of the *Graduate*

*Catalog*. K. Holsinger explained the proposed changes. Discussion ensued.

It was **moved** (G. Elliott), seconded, and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote to approve the modified text for the

*Termination, Dismissal, and Hearing Procedures* section of the *Graduate Catalog*.

6. Members considered for final action the previously-discussed proposed changes to the *Standards and Degree Requirements*

section of the *Graduate Catalog*.

It was **moved** (C. Mahoney), seconded, and **passed** without dissent on a voice vote to approve the modified text for the

*Standards and Degree Requirements* section of the *Graduate Catalog*.

7. K. Holsinger and T. Peters explained soon-to-be-implemented modifications to the Graduate School’s *Academic Calendar*. The

key modifications are these:

* Doctoral students must announce the oral defenses of their dissertations at least four weeks prior to a conferral date via the on-line University Events Calendar if they wish to earn their degrees as of that conferral date.

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* Thesis and dissertation defenses must be completed at least two weeks prior to a conferral date if students wish to earn their degrees as of that conferral date.
* Final thesis and dissertation documents must be filed with the Digital Commons and all other final completion requirements must be satisfied and submitted to the Graduate School in full by a particular conferral date if students wish to earn their degrees as of that conferral date.

These modifications to the *Academic Calendar* will be implemented beginning with the Summer of 2013.

8. K. Holsinger announced that Dr. Jim Wohl has been appointed the University Ombuds and that his office will be in Babbidge

Library. Holsinger called attention to the upcoming Town Hall Meetings that are to be held concerning possible construction of a

student recreational facility. And, Holsinger noted that this is T. Peters’ final GFC meeting.

9. Adjournment was at 4:50 PM.

***Present:***

L. Aldridge, A. Anderson, D. Atkin, J. Barnes-Farrell, R. Bass, JC Beall, P. Britner, Z. Chi, J.G. Clifford, J. Cole, V. Cormier, K. Dennis, K. Dodge, M. Donaldson, M.A. Doyle, G. Elliott, P. Faghri, M-L. Fernandez, M. Gomes, C. Heinen, O. Karan, T. Kehle (alt), C. Mahoney, E. Markus, P. McCauley (alt), G. McManus, M. Nieh, L. Puddington, K. Ryker, M. Urban, K. Venkitanarayanan, M. Wallace; S. Nunnally (Executive Committee); K. Holsinger (Vice Provost and Dean), B. Kream (Associate Dean – Health Center), and T. Peters (Program Director)

Respectfully submitted,

*Thomas B. Peters*

Program Director