

Date: Wednesday, November 20, 2013 @ 3:02 p.m. to 4:37 p.m.

Location: Room 200 – Whetten Graduate Center

Subject: Graduate Faculty Council (GFC) Meeting Minutes Summary

Attendees: David Atkin, Heather Read (replacement for Janet Barnes-Farrell), Richard Bass, JC Beall, JoAnn Robinson (replacement for Preston Britner), Scott Brown, Sandra Chafouleas, Jason Charrette, Zhiyi Chi, John Clifford, James Cole, Vernon Cormier, Mary Anne Doyle, George Elliott, Pouran Faghri, Gayanath Fernando, Mary Fisher, Miguel Gomes, Ian Gutierres, Ashley Helton, Kent Holsinger, Louise Lewis (replacement for Mark Urban), Kelley Newlin Lew, Kenneth Noll, Shayla Nunnally, Karen Ryker, Sue Saunders, Gregory Semenza, Bill Simonsen (replacement for Mark Robbins), Jiong Tang, Kumar Venkitanarayanan, Janet Watson and Chuanrong Zhang.

Video: Pam Deschaine, Kimberly Doge-Kafka, Christopher Heinen, Mina Mina, and Lynn Puddington.

Absent: William Abikoff, Amy Anderson, Robert Aseltine, Sulin Ba, Rajeev Bansal, Janet Barnes-Farrell, Ashis Basu, Safet Berisa, Preston Britner, Harold Brody, Andrea Calabrese, Sylvain Deguise, Kelly Dennis, Steven Demurjian, Kelly Dennis, Anagnostou Emmanouil, Authur Engler, Pamela Erickson, Maria-Luz Fernandez, Catherine Havens, Mark Healey, Orville Karan, William Kraemer, Joseph Loturco, Charles Mahoney, Etan Markus, George Mcmanus, Chantelle Messier, Daniel Mulkey, Mu-Ping Nieh, Kenneth Noll, Richard Parnas, Gary Powell, Sanguthevar Rajasekaran, Mark Robbins, Dale Rose, Kathleen Segerson, Farhed Shah, Richard Sois, Peter Turchin, and Paulo Verardi.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:02 pm with Moderator John Clifford presiding.
2. Agenda item number two (2) – A*pproval of minutes of the meeting of October 16, 2013* – was moved, seconded, and **passed by voice vote without dissent.**

1. Agenda item number three (3) – *Report from Jason Charrette, President GSS*. Discussion ensued and questions were raised.
   1. The recreation center has been passed and the University is currently looking for a location to house the center.
   2. Due to the increased fees and other issues facing UConn graduate students, they have formed an independent body and have decided to unionize. To date, a task force has been formed and dialogue has been made with UAW, UAC and AFT CT.
   3. After discussion and debate, the GSS decided it will assist the students.
2. Agenda item number four (4) *– Introduction and conversation with Kristi Newgarden, Director, University of Connecticut American English Language Institute (UCAELI)*. Kristi presented an ITAP/TOEFL PowerPoint presentation which provided information on the changes to the English Language Proficiency requirements that will become effective Fall 2014. Discussion ensued and questions were raised. There was a discussion regarding the new scores and the requirements for students teaching and non-teaching students, the logic behind the changes, how students will be flagged in the system, how the changes will be implemented and the ability for students to take microteaching by Skype and/or phone. It was suggested that Kristi revisit the issue with the council at the February meeting to discuss how to handle the “non-native speaker with a TOEFL waiver for admission” so that The Graduate School could streamline the process.

1. Agenda item number five (5) – *Discussion of proposed changes to catalog*: *scholarly integrity, complaint procedure and hearing procedure.* Discussion ensued and questions were raised regarding the revised text of the draft documents provided as an attachment to the agenda for the meeting. In short, it was explained that most of the changes were minor editorial and logistical changes to fit the University community and changes within The Graduate School. As a result of the discussion, it was agreed that (1) there will be no voting on this agenda item today (2) members are recommended to review the documents and forward their recommendations in this regard to Sandy Chafouleas and (3) this agenda item will be revisited for a vote at the next meeting.
2. Agenda item number six (6) – *Discussion of Academic Plan for The Graduate School*. In short, it was discussed and explained that the deadline for schools and colleges within the University to submit their Plan to the Provost is February 2014. The vision committee met early today and it was suggested that six or seven areas should be selected and provided to the Provost. Of importance should be investing in graduate and post-doctoral student’s education and moving the University forward.
3. Agenda item number seven (7) – *Report from Dean Kent Holsinger*. There were several updates and announcements and questions were answered regarding professional developments opportunities for graduate students, how the University compares to its aspirant universities, the new center for recreation passing during the November BOT meeting, graduate student’s awareness of changes on fees, and the NEXTGENCT Scholars Program. Dean Holsinger also announced and recognized the 2013 Ed Marth Award winner JC Beal.
4. The meeting adjourned at 4:37 pm.