J. Dhaliwal opened the meeting at 2:04 p.m. when a quorum was attained. He welcomed new member, A. Curry, and congratulated R. Meier on his new role as Associate Dean for the College of Engineering.

440.1: R. Meier moved (2/S. Lease) to approve the minutes from the last UCGS meeting held on December 2, 2016. The motion was carried by voice vote.

440.2: Lakesha Herring presented the council with the various deadlines for the Graduate School fellowships and scholarships. There was some discussion regarding the deadlines of certain awards and if they can be altered. J. Dhaliwal agreed to look into the deadlines to determine which ones may be changed to better accommodate students and departments. He also encouraged the council to promote these scholarships and fellowships, as the caliber of candidates they attract is phenomenal.

440.3: S. Lee presented the council with a proposal for a doctoral degree in nursing. She explained that such a degree would provide a pathway for our existing master’s students to earn a doctoral degree, which is becoming vital in the nursing industry. She noted that we are losing graduate students because we do not have a doctoral degree in nursing. J. Berman moved (2/M. Levy) to approve the proposal for a doctoral degree in nursing. The motion was carried by voice vote.
440.4: J. Dhaliwal announced that Graduate Education Week in Tennessee is February 6-10th, 2017. On February 8, 2017 the Graduate School will travel to Nashville with a graduate student to present their research in the halls of the Legislative Plaza. During this time in Nashville the Graduate School will also attend the 40th anniversary celebration of the Tennessee Conference of Graduate Studies. The TCGS works hard to educate the legislators of the importance of graduate education in Tennessee.

440.6: J. Dhaliwal announced that the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) will be held on the University of Memphis campus April 6-8, 2017. During NCUR there will be a two day Graduate School Information Expo. Colleges and schools are also encouraged to host open houses to recruit these exceptionally bright and motivated students visiting our campus.

440.7: J. Kierulff presented the council with on an update on the implementation of the new centralized application software, Decision Desk. The go live date for Decision Desk is March 13, 2017. There will be reviewer side training on February 9 and February 23.

440.8: J. Dhaliwal informed the council that the university is working to implement multi-term registration by the fall 2018 semester.

440.9: J. Dhaliwal informed the council that the university is trying implement drop-out and stop-out coaches. These individuals would reach out to any student that stops-out or drops-out to determine what can be done to get them enrolled again. This will allow the university to better help students and design programs better.

440.10: M. Levy moved (2/L. Weiss) to approve a new course, ARCH 6825. The motion was carried by voice vote.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mary Kyle.