

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL FOR GRADUATE STUDIES

MINUTES, Meeting 395

September 3, 2010

2:00 p.m., 177B Administration Building

PRESENT: L. Bennett (CAS), J. Berman (PSYC), J. Phillips (ENGL), G. Emmert (CHEM), J. Dhaliwal (FCBE), D. Sherrell (MKTG), M. Logan (CCFA), J. Page (MUSIC), S. Utt (JOUR), E. Rakow (COE), L. Weiss (HSS), D. Hochstein (ENGR), R. Meier (CIVIL), C. Williams (ENGR TECH), R. Koch (NURSING), D. Irwin (UNV. COLLEGE), K. Ward (SPH), B. Park (Library), A. Mount (GSA), K. Weddle-West (Graduate School), J. Brownlee (Graduate School)

ABSENT: M. Grant (ICL), D. Wark (AUSP; R. Koch, proxy), W. Jackson (Faculty Senate; J. Berman, proxy), T. Woodman (Graduate School)

GUESTS:

K. Weddle-West opened the meeting at 2:06 p.m. when a quorum was attained. E. Rakow noted that the council had already voted and approved making ETD archiving mandatory effective fall 2010.

395.2 Announcements:

395.2.1 Introduction of new members: K. Weddle-West welcomed all new University Council members to our group. She introduced Alaina Mount, who is replacing Sean Connable as the new Graduate Student Association President. Next she introduced the new Associate Deans, Debbie Hochstein, Dick Irwin, and Ken Ward. Then each council member introduced themselves to the group.

395.2.2 Introduction of Graduate Student Association President: A. Mount remarked that she is looking forward to working with all of the council members this year. She noted that the G.S.A. has a lot of projects "in the works" and encouraged all council members to send any interested students her way.

395.2.3 Request for G.S.A. representatives from each college/school: K. Weddle-West asked all council members to send M. Kyle (marykyle@memphis.edu) the names of any students interested in joining the G.S.A. Leadership Council.

395.1 Approval of minutes from meeting #394: E. Rakow (2/R. Koch) made a motion to approve the minutes from meeting #394. The motion was carried by voice vote.

395.2.4 2010-2011 U.C.G.S. meeting schedule: K. Weddle-West reviewed the meeting schedule for the U.C.G.S., noting that the meeting in December will be held on **Thursday**, December 9, 2010.

395.2.5 Graduate School Memo regarding curricular changes: K. Weddle-West announced that all curricular revisions must be submitted to the Graduate School by October 22, 2010. She urged all council members to carefully read the memo distributed, as it contains information on the proper procedure for creating and submitting curricular revision requests. She also encouraged members to contact one another for guidance if new to this process.

395.2.6 Graduate School fellowships and scholarships information: K. Weddle-West asked the council members to familiarize themselves with the various fellowships and scholarships available through the Graduate School. She also asked that they pass this information along to their students. This information is also available on the graduate school website.

395.2.7 Graduate Enrollment: K. Weddle-West was pleased to inform the council that enrollment has increased 10% since last fall. At this point in time there were 4,635 registered Graduate students, more than 200 more than the previous year. She thanked everyone for their efforts to boost enrollment, noting that their enthusiasm and willingness to get involved and attend events has really made a difference.

395.2.8 100 ETDs online: K. Weddle-West thanked the ETD committee for their hard work in implementing this new electronic archiving system. The process is going smoothly, with one hundred thesis/dissertations archived already.

395.2.9 2009-2010 Graduate School highlights: K. Weddle-West briefly reviewed the names and roles of each Graduate School staff member. She then called attention to the fact that TBR and THEC recently changed the funding formula. Previously, this funding formula was based on enrollment, whereas now it is based on outcome. E. Rakow noted that in the past funding was tied to credit hours. Now it is more tied to graduation rates. K. Weddle-West announced that she is very proud of all the new programs and concentrations being developed and approved. She asked that departments continue to send proposals for new Graduate Certificates, as they are relatively easy to get approved and help to boost programs.

395.2.10 New Module for IRB Applications: K. Weddle-West asked the council members to read the recent announcement regarding the new module for IRB applications. She also requested that they make sure their students are aware of this change.

395.3 Discussion Items:

395.3.1 National Research Council Assessment of Graduate Programs: K. Weddle-West announced that the long-awaited NRC Assessment on doctoral programs will be released on September 28, 2010. The University of Memphis will receive a copy of the report on September 20, 2010 in order to prepare for the report's release to the public. Although originally positioned as a quality study, the report is now being described as a benchmark study. It will allow us to see how our programs compare to our peers. K. Weddle-West stated that the Graduate School will host an open forum to review and discuss the methodology of the report. She asked that at least one person from each college/school attend this meeting.

395.3.2 Fall Graduate School Recruitment Fair: K. Weddle-West said the tentative date of the next Graduate School Recruitment Fair is November 2nd, 2010. The fair will be held in the

University Center ballroom this year. K. Weddle-West stated that we will need faculty and graduate students to serve as representatives from each program to staff tables and provide information to potential students. More information about the Recruitment Fair will be distributed once available.

395.2.11 The Path Forward: The Future of Graduate Education: K. Weddle-West shared information provided by a report from the Commission on the Future of Graduate Education in the United States with the council members. This report is in response to the change in demographics and how this change will affect institutions such as the University of Memphis. One of the main goals of the Commission is, “to create a national conversation on how to increase graduate degree attainment by all segments of the country's population.” After reviewing the report summary with the council, K. Weddle-West played a short video produced by the Commission. This video is available online at <http://www.fgereport.org/>.

395.4 Old Business: none

395.5 New Business: none

There being no further business to discuss, K. Weddle-West adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mary Kyle.