University Board of Graduate Studies Minutes
of the 1/17/13 meeting


Also Present: Melody Baker (note taker), Kevin Gibson, Craig Pierce

Excused: Stephen Saunders, Doris Walker-Dalhouse

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. and the agenda was approved.

Reports:

Graduate Assistant Dean –
Mr. Pierce reported that the 12th Dissertation Boot Camp was held last week with 20 participants. The program has had a total of 146 participants, with 84 still active, 4 drop outs, and 58 that have graduated.

Applications for next fall are down by 20% in the Business School, while overall Graduate Programs are down by 4%, mostly in Engineering and Education. The lack of financial aid is part of the reason. Graduate school recruiters will be looking at countries offering aid to their students as a possible way to garner more applicants. It may also be useful to form an advisory panel with graduate students from key countries.

Graduate Dean –
Dr. Hossenlopp thanked the members for attending the dinner with Fr. Pilarz and shared feedback she received that it was a very good conversation.

On January 30th there will be a Strategic Planning Workshop in place of the annual President’s State of the University address. Roundtable discussions will be facilitated and Dr. Hossenlopp encouraged all members to participate. The GSO is connecting with students to encourage them to participate.

Dr. Hossenlopp attended the December Council of Graduate School meeting. There are a number of common national challenges including enrollment, student financial aid and debt burden, and building effective connections with graduate school alumni.

Graduate Associate Dean –
Dr. Gibson reported that the GSO has been quite active, with 30 new members and several planned events.

A summary of RWARs for the fall term was presented: 25 grad students were subject to censure, 5 of those were dismissed and 4 of those made no appeal.

UBGS Chair –
Dr. Johnson reported that the subcommittee is still working on moving forward with plans for an INPR program review. A process is being established to ensure qualifying exams and proposals have some form of assessment.
Business:
*Research in Action Joint Faculty Discussion: Feb 19th, 3:00 – 4:30pm (Sponsored by UBGS & COR)* – All members are encouraged to attend. The event will be facilitated by Kerry Egdorf, Omsbuds. Members are asked to email topics for discussion to Dr. Johnson.

*Follow up on discussion with campus ministry and students* –
Members offered the following comments on last month’s discussion:
- It was helpful in understanding the function of Campus Ministry.
- There is a need for the campus to better understand the important role of research at Marquette.
- It was helpful to express the importance of a place for grad students to gather, to have a place for community.

The purpose of the event was to open up channels of communication among people who don’t normally converse and see if it leads to anything. Dr. Johnson asked if there should be any type of follow-up. Recommendations included organizing a structured event between faculty and students, or a group from UBGS attending a GSO event.

*Programs that offer both a certificate and a specialization, in which the two have identical or very similar requirements* –
Mr. Pierce explained that this topic came up recently when a student finished a program and expected to receive both a masters with the specialization, and a certificate, but was not registered for the certificate.

Members were asked to consider if it makes sense for a program to offer both a MA with Specialization and Certificate, and does it make sense for a student to get both at the same time in the same program? Students can only be registered for one degree at a time, but a member wondered if students could be required to work towards only one degree at a time.

Dr. Caulfield shared a document listing all of the College of Professional Studies (CPS) degrees, specializations, and certificates to help clarify, and also described a form that was devised specifically for students who wanted to apply to get both degrees at the same time. She also explained how students can do this, and how core requirements are involved.

A suggestion was made to limit the number of credits that can be used toward both the specialization and certificate, and require additional credits to get additional credentials.

The certification and specialization are too close to the same thing. Another suggestion was to offer the certificate as a stand-alone, or the masters with a specialization or certification, not both. It was also suggested to require students to complete the certification before the MA, in different terms. Since the issue is currently primarily in CPS, and CPS is reviewing their requirements, a follow-up meeting with Mr. Pierce, Dr. Gibson, Dr. Caulfield, and the Registrar will be convened to work out options prior to any further UBGS discussion.
**Academic Integrity** (UBUS recommendation to provost) –

Dr. Johnson reported that the joint subcommittee (UBUS/UBGS) put together a recommendation last spring which ultimately went to the Provost, who formed a steering committee to implement the policy. He charged the steering committee with presenting the recommendation to the Academic Senate. The steering committee will report directly to the Provost. Dr. Johnson will keep the UBGS informed as this progresses.

Dr. Hossenlopp reported that she will be attending a University Advancement meeting to speak on graduate education and asked the members what they would like her to tell them. The following suggestions were made:
- The objective, numbers, and success stories of graduate programs
- Show how strong graduate programs at peer universities can make a difference
- Show the impact that the rankings of grad programs have on undergrad and faculty recruitment.
- Point out the differences in enrollment.
- Show the link between graduate programs and research.
- Showcase prominent grad alumni.
- Ask other universities what their advancement team does for them, especially at universities with strong research.
- Describe Trinity Fellows program development and the possibility that donors will support passions.

Dr. Hossenlopp also reported she will be visiting an alumnus out east with a regional officer. The regular meeting adjourned at 3:15pm. Ex-officio members were excused for an executive session that followed.