University Board of Graduate Studies Minutes  
of the 4/4/13 meeting


Also Present: Melody Baker (note taker), Craig Pierce, Carrie Pruhs, Jim Rice (MEEN)

Excused: Daniel Rowe, Luke Samalya

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

Reports:

Graduate Dean –
Dr. Hossenlopp reported that her presentation at the all UA meeting last month was well received and that there was talk of fund raising for graduate programs. Seven awards were presented at the annual Distinguished Scholars Reception last week; Fr. Pilarz spoke about the importance of research at Marquette.

Graduate Associate Dean –
Dr. Gibson reported that he attended the Academic Planning Team meeting last week to discuss policy for accelerated degree programs. After some minor tweaking, the policy should be in place by the end of AY13. Accelerated program students take 5000 level courses in their last year which count towards a graduate degree.

Business:

New program approval for Mechanical Engineering M.E. –
Dr. Jim Rice attended the meeting and briefly explained the changes that were being made to accommodate a course-only option, which includes a comprehensive exam but no thesis. Due to market demand, the department head and the Industrial Advisory Board advised this change, which includes lesser credit hours, to be competitive and attractive to potential students working in the industry. Since the courses are already in place, no additional resources are needed. It is expected that the decrease of 3 credits will be made up by increased enrollment, for which the department has also taken proactive steps. Dr. Johnson advised Dr. Rice to have the department work with OMC for marketing materials for the new program. Dr. Rice confirmed the program will still be accepting 6 credits from the Edison program and are contemplating 9.

Dr. Rice was dismissed and there was no further discussion. A vote was taken to approve the plan as presented and passed unanimously. This proposal will be taken to Academic Senate for their approval.

The committee discussed the process for voting at the same meeting that a motion is brought forward. Situations where having a vote in a subsequent meeting is most appropriate (i.e. when further consultation or deliberation should occur) were discussed and Dr. Johnson will review past minutes with respect to this issue.
INRP Proposal initial subcommittee report and discussion –

The subcommittee met last month to review this proposal. Their comments were sent to Mr. Pierce, who forwarded them to the student candidate. The co-chair of the candidate’s committee reported that the modifications were positively received and will be finished soon. The candidate will be prepared to present at the May meeting. It was noted that the UBGS members should each receive a copy of the amended document at least two weeks before the next meeting.

A recommendation was made to create an INPR checklist for INPR chairs so they are aware of the expectations and Dr. Gibson will work on this.

The process of the INPR subcommittee (this topic was added during the discussion) –

Dr. Johnson reviewed the policy previously written in regard to the subcommittee and what the process is.

Dr. Johnson asked members whether the subcommittee report should be distributed to the full board. There was some discussion on the history of this and it was pointed out that this may prejudice some members when the student presents to the full board. Rather, it would make sense for the subcommittee to contribute comments at the time of the full review, indicating whether the recommendations of the subcommittee were followed or not.

Members were also reminded that the assigned advisor is presumably an expert in the proposed area of study and that should be taken into consideration. Dr. Johnson recommended that the subcommittee comments should not be distributed to the full board and members were in agreement.

Dr. Johnson reported at this juncture that a self-study review of the INPR program is still in process.

Set up new INPR subcommittee –

After a quick overview of a new proposal, Dr. Johnson asked for 3 volunteers to serve on the subcommittee. Dr. Gibson also offered some comments and asked, if the comments of the subcommittee were sufficiently positive, could the student get permission from the Grad School to take extra courses over the summer. It was agreed that yes, this is possible. Since the presentation to the full board would not occur until the September meeting however, the student would assume the risk of taking courses before receiving approval. The subcommittee will be comprised of Dr. O’Brien, Dr. Walker-Dalhouse, and Dr. Griffin.

In closing, Dr. Caulfield asked about the UBGS chair getting together with the Committee on Teaching chair to discuss graduate programing as mentioned in a previous UBGS meeting. Dr. Johnson is in agreement and will make arrangements to do that.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.