UBGS MINUTES

To: UBGS Members
From: Jeanne Hossenlopp
Date: 10-7-10
Re: University Board of Graduate Studies
Approved Minutes of the October 7, 2010 UBGS Meeting

Excused: Ed Fallone, Stephen Merrill
Also Present: Melody Baker (note taker), Tim Melchert, Carrie Pruhs, Paula Papanek (PHTH)

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

Reports:
Report from the Committee Chair:
Dr. Griffin introduced the new Graduate Student representative, Kanoe Fish, to the members. They welcomed her to the committee.

Report from the Graduate Dean:
Dr. Hossenlopp announced that the PHTH proposal, which will be discussed later in this meeting, has been approved by the Provost to go to finance next.

Unfinished Business:
Comments from exit survey (attachment)
The aggregated comments had been sent to the members for viewing and they were briefly discussed. Although Erin Fox and Craig Pierce were not available at today’s meeting to answer questions, members may contact them by phone or email before the next meeting if necessary. The members agreed that most of the comments were favorable and the few negative comments seemed to have been addressed. Dr. Hossenlopp asked the members if departments should receive the comments. There was general agreement that departments should receive the comments in order to recognize the positive and take action on any negative concerns. However, comments will be held until a sufficient number are obtained per program so as not to compromise student confidentiality.

New Business:
Department of Physical Therapy - Proposal for Graduate Education in Clinical and Translational Rehabilitation Health Sciences (attachment)
Dr. Papanek, director of Exercise Science, from the department of Physical Therapy, joined the meeting. The proposal had been sent to members ahead of time and Dr. Papanek proceeded to describe the rationale for this proposal which would enhance the department’s national reputation. She described how programs for Physical Therapy have changed nationwide and the need for additional faculty. She also discussed how the formation of the College of Health Sciences has changed the opportunities for their students. In order to retain and recruit faculty and students a Ph.D. program is needed to make the department competitive with their peers. The CTSI initiative that was recently launched has opened the possibility for the Physical Therapy department to be involved with people who are doing research in rehabilitation and want to teach. Additionally, the CTSI grant is providing some of the funding for the proposed program. The opportunity to exchange classes with MCW gives the students additional opportunities. It is also an opportunity for MU to capture a part of the market that other universities are not prepared for.
The members were then asked if they had questions for Dr. Papanek:

*Question*: How many students do you expect in the program?  
*Answer*: Between 10 and 11, with an expectation to expand as time goes on. The department plans to make use of the Accelerated Degree Program.

*Question*: Is it correct that you plan to offer 3 degrees?  
*Answer*: Yes. Using the Accelerated Degree Program, a BS-MS for current students, MS, and PhD. (The department already offers a BS and DPT).

*Question*: Will the program address the topic of Research Ethics with the students?  
*Answer*: Yes, our students will be participating in the new module training on Responsible Conduct of Research offered by the Graduate School, although students do enter the program with training in certain areas of research ethics.

*Question*: Why not take advantage of the CTSI exchange and use MCW’s Research Ethics program?  
*Answer*: The issue of tuition is not yet resolved and we don’t want the progress of the proposal to be hung up on that. Meanwhile, the training module here will more than meet the federal guidelines. There is also the intention for students to have a translational project, which requires a committee member to be a CTSI participant.

*Question*: What are your expectations for grant award numbers?  
*Answer*: Dr. Papanek said she may not be the best person to answer that, but the hope is that as faculty grow in grantsmanship there will be an increase.

*Question*: Is there a long term plan to phase out the 5 research assistantships?  
*Answer*: No, it is a long term plan to keep them.

*Question*: Are there any TA positions?  
*Answer*: There are part time teaching dollars included in the proposal.

Dr. Papanek left the meeting and there was a general consensus that the proposal was very well done. Both Dr. Papanek and Dr. Pan will join the next meeting in November when this proposal will undergo a final review by the UBGS, after the financials have been approved.

*NRC data (attachments)*

Dr. Hossenlopp has heard from NRC about the timing for submitting corrections and will share that information via email. (A typo in the number of philosophy programs listed on materials sent to UBGS was noted and subsequently corrected; there are 90 philosophy programs in the NRC data.) NRC has indicated that it does not plan to rerun the study but will post a list of corrections. One concern is that the NRC methodology results in an incomplete count of publications of certain disciplines. Dr. Hossenlopp noted that important uses of the NRC data will be to identify benchmarking goals and that each program can utilize the data set to compare with other programs. MU programs that did not participate in the study will be expected to also use the NRC data in goal setting but will not be required to go back and obtain all of the past data for their own program. It was also noted that the provost suggested that NRC diversity data could be utilized to assist in faculty recruiting. Finally, it was noted that not all programs participated in the study.

*Provost’s Strategic Commitments (attachment)*

The document, *IMAGINING MARQUETTE’S STRATEGIC COMMITMENT TO ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, 2010-13*, was discussed. This was written by the Provost and meant as a bridge to more comprehensive strategic planning after the new President arrives. The document has been circulated among the deans for the purpose of getting a conversation going towards a strategic plan and faculty input is also being sought. Dr. Hossenlopp asked the UBGS members to comment on the document.

One member asked what Challenge 4, “To encourage graduate programs in select areas…” meant and will there be cuts to programs?  Dr. Hossenlopp said it was meant to *not* suggest there is a PhD program in every department. Being selective means promoting the quality programs.

Another member asked if there is a cap on the number of graduate programs?  Dr. Hossenlopp said, no, actually the master’s programs would help generate revenue; although there is no financial model for that right now, an enrollment management plan is a goal for graduate programs.

It was also asked if this document was meant to be vague. Dr. Hossenlopp said yes, to allow for input from others. When asked what should be included in the document, members made some suggestions. The document should advocate for the importance of graduate education, especially if it is Marquette’s vision to be a top Catholic university and if its mission is important. Also, the connection
between graduate education, research, and undergraduate education needs to be tied together. The point needs to be made that graduate programs drive and encourage undergraduate programs.

A member also requested that the priority of strategic hiring of faculty that tie into research and graduate programs should be included under faculty development in this document.

A concern was also stated that the financial side of MU makes many decisions affecting faculty, and they should be there to serve the students and faculty, and help progress be made within the departments.

A comment was also made that undergraduate programs seem to be in communication with their alumni better. We need to think of ways that better connections can be made with graduate alumni and relationships can be maintained.

Dr. Hossenlopp said she has heard a lot of feedback on how to better communicate who we are as graduate programs and researchers and this would be worth continued discussion. She is still planning on inviting Tricia Geraghty to a meeting of the UBGS, but would like the members to decide on an agenda for a conversation in advance.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.