



**Graduate Student Advisory Committee
Meeting Agenda**

June 12, 2009 12:00 pm

Waldo Library – Meader Room

Representatives Present: Brandi L. Pritchett (Chairperson), Nayane Udawatte (Chemistry), Mary Devadas (Chemistry), Tanya Douleh (Psychology), Benito Hall (Marketing), Cheyla Milo (CECP), Katya Gallegos (Teaching, Learning, Ed. Studies), Zach Sullivan (Health, Physical Ed. & Recreation), Lotfi Ben Othmone (Computer Science), Stephany Coffman-Wolph (Computer Science),

Guests Present: Scott Garrison (Associate Dean of University Libraries), Barbara Cockrell (Associate Dean University Libraries), Michele Behr (Associate Professor of University Libraries)

1. Call to order: 3:08
2. Introductions
3. *Approval of the Agenda for 6/12/09: Postponed until July 10, 2009
4. *Approval of Minutes from 5/08/09: Postponed until July 10, 2009
5. Report from the Dean of the Graduate College – *Dr. Lewis Pyenson*: No Report
6. Report from the Chairperson – *Brandi Pritchett*

a. Focus Group and Luncheon w/ Waldo Library Staff – Michele Behr opened the discussion by sharing the outcomes of the discussion that she had with Brandi back in early April regarding library services for graduate students. As a result of this discussion Brandi began to look into other universities and what their borrowing privileges are. She stated that WMU is doing well and that while there is great room for improvement we should commend our current library personnel for their work. Brandi then shared her primary concerns (1) extending resources such as interlibrary loan, etc. to graduate students beyond graduation for an extended period of time – currently it is 6 months (2) awarding the same borrowing privileges to graduate students without funding as those that have acquired funding (3) expanding the interlibrary loan services and updating the on-line full link journals to include more resources. Cost for resources and bronco net id/password is a bigger issue than it appears with respect to extending library resources to alumni. Currently we access library privileges through our bronco net id status and once one graduates they no longer have that access after a short period of time so extending resources beyond graduation would also include working with O.I.T and other departments. Currently there is a guest borrower program for WMU alumni and PhD graduates have lifetime borrowing although it is of no benefit to them if out of the local area. Since it is unlikely that alumni would be awarded full access to all library resources, it was asked if it would be useful to have access to selected databases (e.g. Proquest – online tool but generic search database). Another topic of discussion was how to boost attendance at library workshops. Video tutorials, webpages, newsletters, a GA/DA position for a liaison, and greater communication with faculty to have required workshops in classes or at minimum a statement in the syllabus that outlines the relevance to course material were all suggestions offered. Someone also suggested having a drop off service where the library would allow for grad student to request a book and it get delivered in campus mail. Likewise, a preparation service that would allow for a grad student to request a book and the library staff locate it and hold it for pick up at the circulation desk. The ed. Library is currently piloting this service.

NEXT STEPS: Would it be possible to survey the research needs of grad students in an effort to find out what journals they would need to access (full text electronically), if interlibrary borrowing time is too short (currently 2 weeks) would they access a pick up/drop off service, what would increase their participation, what resources do they need, etc.). Development of the top 10 things grad students need to know about library (e.g. can request to buy a book, can recheck out up to 3 times, etc.)

Brandi will follow up with Scott Garrison, Michele Behr, and Barbara Cockrall about these issues and determine how to proceed.

b. 2009-2010 Budget Discussion – There was a short discussion about budget for the 2009-2010 school year. Brandi shared the hold up in setting a solid budget as she is trying to figure out the best way

to incorporate an incentive/awards program for active GSAC membership because a lot of students have provided feedback related to this issue. She will be meeting with Chris Sligh (SALP) and Melissa Green (SALP) to iron out possible options. It was suggested that the GSAC host an awards or recognition ceremony honoring active members. It was also suggested that the GSAC support funding for conferences or research. Others were not as enthusiastic about this suggestion as some of them wouldn't benefit from such an incentive. Brandi will report to the GSAC membership following her meeting with SALP and request that the GSAC vote via email on the budget.

7. Reports from GSAC Sub-Committees – *ALL POSTPONED until July 10, 2009*
 - a. *Graduate Financial Allocation Committee (8) – *Joel Raveloharimisy, Brandi Pritchett, Nayane Udawatte, Greg Laing (NEEDS 4 ADDITIONAL MEMBERS!)*
 - i. Report from the GSAC Treasurer – *Joel Raveloharimisy*
 - b. Public Relations Committee (3) – *Kazuhiro Iwamoto, Svetlana Stone, Krystal Bresnahan*
 - c. Web Site Committee (3) – *Joel Raveloharimisy*
 - d. Research and Publication Committee (4) – *Lothi Benothmone*
8. Reports from University Councils and Committees
 - a. Graduate Studies Council (2) – *Brandi Pritchett, Joel Raveloharimisy*
 - b. Research Policies Council (2) – *Greg Laing (NEEDS 1 ADDITIONAL MEMBER!)*
 - c. International Education Council (1) – *Kazuhiro Iwamoto*
 - d. Campus Planning and Finance Council – *Vacant (NEEDS 1 MEMBER!)*
 - e. University Accreditation Committee (8) – *Brandi Pritchett (Steering Committee), Svetlana Stone (Student Learning Committee), Phyllis Haugabook (Mission and Integrity Committee), Greg Laing (Preparing for the Future Committee), Stephany Coffman-Wolph (Acquisition, Discovery, and Application Committee), John Kusku (Acquisition, Discovery, and Application Committee) (NEEDS 1 ADDITIONAL MEMBER!)*
 - f. Graduate Student Research and Travel Awards Selection Committee – *Kamleshkumar Suthar*
 - g. President's University Sustainability Committee (1) – *Daniel Seidling*
 - h. ICES Online Communications Plan Committee (1) – *Joel Raveloharimisy*
 - i. East Campus Task Force (1) – *Joel Raveloharimisy*
 - j. MLK Committee (1) – *Vacant*
 - k. Committee for Developing Leadership in Diversity, Social Justice, and Inclusion (1) – *Katya Gallegos*
9. Reports from WSA, CAB, and TAU – *ALL POSTPONED until July 10, 2009*
 - a. WSA – *Nate Knappen (WSA President)*
 - b. CAB – *David Van Deusen (CAB President)*
 - c. TAU – *Jamie McCandless (TAU Representative)*
10. **Departmental Reports – Postponed until July 10, 2009**
11. Unfinished Business – *Postponed until July 10, 2009*
12. New Business – *Postponed until July 10, 2009*
13. Student Concerns (Open Floor) – *Postponed until July 10, 2009*
14. General Announcements and Briefs –
 - a. Announcements for the Good of the Order
 - b. Next GFAC and GSAC Meetings:
15. General Discussion: “The State of Graduate Education”
16. Adjourn:

* = Items that require a vote of members