

Graduate Student Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
Connable Board Room, The Bernhard Center  
06.11.2004

**Representatives Present:** Todd Ide (chair), Sankar Shanmugam (vice chair), Marcel Brouwers (English), Jay Cawthorne (PPSE), Peter Voice (Geo), Kurt Hayden (IME), Raluca Gera (Math), Nancy Greer-Williams (Higher Ed), Angela Prater (Com), Andrea (Sociology)

**Guests:** Dean Bill Wiener (Graduate College), Dr. Kevin Vichcales (Grad College), Janice Quakenbush (Student Affairs)

**1. The meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m.**

**2. Introductions**

**3. Minutes approved**

- Kurt moved, Nancy Seconded. Motion passed.

**4. Report from the Dean, Dr. Bill Wiener**

- a) New provost search – Within one week the decision will be made. Business dean is leaving, Dr. Ed Edwards interim Dean
- b) Undergraduate enrollment went down, therefore less money; smaller number of sections offered for first year classes
- c) Last year 86 PhD students, whereas this year only 76 students
- d) Grad/Non-traditional fair options discussed: Discontinue fair, GSAC coordinates, include scaled down version as part of new student orientation.
- e) New summer orientation to take place June 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> for minority students because of a lack of support after heavy recruitment.
- f) Faculty senate councils / committees – research ethics (educate students & faculty), role of grad college, retention of grad students

**5. Report from the Chair- elect (Todd)**

- a) Meeting with President Bailey to discuss Provost Selection. Term will be a fixed two-year appointment. Person selected will start July 1.
- b) Handbook corrections are underway
- c) CommUniverCity - new \$150 fee for set up
- d) Picnic – tennis courts in REC in case of rain
- e) Voter Registration Drive in the fall – with other grad groups & undergrad groups
- f) NAGPS Lobby Days – Loan consolidation issues – Tax exemption campaign. WMU representative will be Todd and Raluca.

**6. Report from the Chair (Marcel)**

- a) Addendum to the Annual Year – end report; Kurt motioned, Raluca Seconded. Approved unanimously.

**7. GSAC Sub-Committees and University Councils**

- a) Web – Sankar working with Lou Ann on website transition issue. Ordered a new laptop for GSAC, which costs about \$2100.
- b) Research Policies Council will be looking the issue of graduate retention. In addition, new Carnegie classification system is to be examined and how this may impact WMU's accreditation. Discussion of decision to increase Faculty Award amount and why the lack of Grad recognition in a monetary way. This may help to increase retention.
- c) Technology and Operations Council – Peter will not be able to attend summer meeting. 126 digital projectors for around university.

- d) Graduate Studies Council – Grad faculty status and its reassessment if categories and criteria utilized by the various departments are being examined.
- e) Campus Planning & Finance Council – Unable to get the meeting minutes from CPFC. Next meeting will be either on July or August.
- f) GFAC
  - i. MCPA Conference
    - 1. MCPA (Michigan College Personnel Association) request for \$300 to fund conference breakfast.
    - 2. GFAC proposed giving \$500 to fully fund breakfast since Conference was bringing people to WMU and Kalamazoo and MCPA has offered to heavily promote GSAC/GFAC sponsorship.
    - 3. Marcel made motion to approve the \$500 recommendation, Ralucca seconded.
    - 4. Approved unanimously
  - ii. GSAC 2004 – 2005 Proposed Budget
    - 1. Sankar presented the proposed changes.
    - 2. Jay moved to approve budget, Nancy seconded.
    - 3. Motioned carried unanimously.

**8. Old and Continuing Business**

**9. New Business**

**10. General Announcements**

- 1. GFAC meeting – July 16 and August 13
- 2. Next GSAC meeting – July 16 and August 13

**11. Discussion at Roadhouse**

**12. Adjournment**