

**Graduate Council
September 16, 2013
226 University Hall
Meeting Minutes**

Graduate Council Members Present:

Lynley Anderman, David Barker, Anne Carey, Elizabeth Davis, Russell Fazio, Amy Ferketich, Lisa Florman (chair), Joanne Groden, Sarah Lang, Jeff Parvin, Cheena Srinivasan

Graduate School Staff Present: Patrick Osmer, Ann Salimbene, Cyndi Freeman, Susan Reeser (recorder)

A. Approval of Minutes

- Professor Florman called the meeting to order and asked for a review of the minutes from the April 29, 2013, Graduate Council meeting. The minutes were approved as submitted. It was also confirmed that minutes were prepared from the July 2, 2013, special meeting to revoke a faculty members M and P graduate faculty status (see attached minutes).

B. Announcements

1. Dean Osmer began the meeting by introducing the new Graduate Council members and welcoming the continuing members. He briefly explained Council's organization and role as an advisory group to the Graduate School in reviewing policies on graduate education and overseeing initiatives. Dean Osmer said that Council members are welcome to recommend agenda items to him for the meetings.
2. Dean Osmer gave an update on the Life Sciences Network (LSN) and the Environmental Sciences Network (ESN). He said that the co-locating of the LSN with the interdisciplinary graduate programs (IGPs) (Microbiology, Molecular Genetics, Chemistry/Biochemistry, and the Center for RNA Biology) in a shared space in 105 Bioscience building has been completed and that the transition of the financial and HR operations for the ESN and LSN to the Graduate School became effective on July 1 and went very smoothly.
3. Dean Osmer announced that the Graduate School, in collaboration with Scarlet and Gray Financial, has been awarded a grant from the Council of Graduate Schools (funded by TIAA/CREF) on "Enhancing Student Financial Education". Associate Dean Scott Herness and Jonathan Nutt, Assistant Director Student Life Wellness Center, will spearhead this effort. Ohio State was one of fifteen institutions that were selected to receive the \$40,000 award (over a 24-month period beginning July 1, 2013). Scarlet and Gray Financial will develop online and in-person programs for students to learn about and manage their personal finances. A student survey will kick off the program.
4. Assistant Dean Ann Salimbene reported on the ongoing and increasing number of mental health and behavioral problems occurring on campus, and at other institutions as reported by the Council of Graduate Schools. She said that a problem is that programs frequently fail to document or address bad behavior immediately. Dean Salimbene informed council that resource teams such as the university police and the Crisis Assessment Team (CAT) are available to quickly assess and handle these situations. Dean Salimbene reported that

Micky Sharma, director, Counseling and Consultation Service, will attend the graduate studies committee chairs meeting on October 1 to provide additional resource information.

Council discussed the online stress and depression questionnaire called RU Okay? Buckeyes that is featured on the Council of Graduate Students website, and is partially funded by the Graduate School. Students can voluntarily, anonymously, and confidentially complete the questionnaire and receive feedback on their emotional well-being from a counselor, through an anonymous dialogue feature. Dean Osmer asked council for their comments and feedback on ways to deal with student issues.

5. Dean Osmer introduced Cyndi Freeman, director of Graduate Student Recruitment and Diversity Initiatives in the Graduate School. Ms. Freeman explained the history, purpose, and curriculum of the Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP). She distributed the 2013 SROP Cohort Summary showing the statistical data of the 48 high-achieving students who participated in this past summer's program. Ms. Freeman explained that Ohio State programs aren't recruiting these highly motivated students into their programs and that the students are instead being recruited by other institutions. Ms. Freeman explained the SROP Fellowship program saying that the nomination process and deadlines are the same as the Graduate School's university fellowship competition.

Ms. Freeman asked council to please send her their feedback on ways to get faculty and programs interested in sponsoring the summer 2014 SROP students and to encourage programs to consider recruiting SROP students into their programs. Contact information for Cyndi Freeman is freeman.414@osu.edu or 292-6998.

6. Dean Osmer shared a handout extracted from his 2012-13 annual report submitted to Provost Steinmetz on September 3. The 5 goals for 2013-14 describes the initiatives and programs being considered by the Graduate school. The goals include: improving career services for graduate students, assessing the fellowship programs, supporting work plans for the Environmental Sciences Network and Life Sciences Network, recruiting of high-ability underrepresented students, integrating graduate data into the university's systems, and establishing a grant-funded financial education program. Dean Osmer said that the goals are informational at this point and that he would welcome council members' comments.
7. Dean Osmer invited council to attend each of the two upcoming Graduate School meetings. The October 1 meeting will be held for Graduate Studies Committee Chairs (GSCC) only to give faculty the tools and personal attention they need to mentor and advise graduate students in their programs. This meeting will be held in room 140 Pfahl Hall from 3:30-5 p.m. Also, the Graduate School semester meeting on November 19 for department chairs, GSCC, and graduate program coordinators is designed to provide a general overview of new initiatives, policies, and directives. This meeting will be held from 3:30-5 p.m. in the Blackwell Ballrooms B&C.

C. Election of Chair

- Dean Osmer reported that each year a returning council member is offered the opportunity to chair the meetings. He said that Professor Lisa Florman served as chair for the 2012-2013 year and has agreed to serve again for the 2013-2014 year. Dean Osmer asked

council if any other members wished to serve in this capacity. Being none, members voted unanimously for Professor Florman to serve as chair.

- Dean Osmer asked council to send any meeting agenda items to either him or to Professor Florman.

D. Business

Dean Osmer reported that the Council of Graduate Students (CGS) is seeking a faculty advisor to replace Professor Karla Zadnik, Vision Science, who has stepped down due to commitments. Sarah Lang, secretary, CGS, said that the CGS advising structure includes Kerry Hodak, Office of Student Life, and Assistant Dean Kathleen Wallace, Graduate School. The faculty advisor would serve as an advocate for CGS, attend one meeting each semester, and assist in securing judges for the Hayes Research Forum. Sarah asked council to let her know if they may be interested in serving as the CGS faculty advisor or may know of someone who might like to service in this capacity.

D. Graduate Council Curriculum Committee Reports and Actions

- Dean Osmer reported on the proposal to change the name of the Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist MS degree program to the Adult Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist.
 - **The proposal was reviewed and approved by Graduate Council and it will be forwarded to the Council on Academic Affairs (CAA) for further review.**

E. Other

- Professor Ferketich asked if it would be possible to develop a graduate certificate programs in public health. Dean Osmer said such requests are handled by the Curriculum Committee process and that Associate Dean Herness to follow up on the issue when he returns.
- In response to an inquiry, Dean Osmer reported that the Graduate School's fellowship programs were included as part of the university's Campus Campaign. The list of funds is attached for your convenience.

Professor Florman adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

GRADUATE SCHOOL GIFT FUNDS

Gifts to the Graduate School help support graduate students through fellowship and award programs, professional development opportunities, and other activities.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND EMERGING NEEDS

Graduate School Advancement Fund (#301707)

Gifts to the Advancement Fund provide the Graduate School with unrestricted funds to meet emerging needs and importunities. Gifts at present primarily support professional development programming for students and other special programs

FELLOWSHIPS

General Fellowship Fund (#302834) gifts have a direct impact on the quality of graduate education by helping attract, retain, and graduate a larger number of outstanding students by providing fellowship support..

Graduate Enrichment Fellowship Fund (#308650) gifts support fellowships offered to top applicants each year whose enrollment on campus will increase the diversity of the Graduate School.

Dissertation-Year Fellowships (#308649) are awarded to academically distinguished students in the final stages of their dissertations or D.M.A. projects.

AWARDS

Alumni Grants for Graduate Research and Scholarship (#307308) are made annually to about 80 doctoral and M.F.A. students whose departments and advisors lack funds to provide support for dissertation research. Awards are based on merit. The maximum award is \$2,000.

Graduate Associate Teaching Awards (#307308) are given annually to 10 graduate teaching associates nominated from a pool of about 4000 teaching associates by current or former students, faculty, or others. The cash award of \$1,500 recognizes outstanding teaching by graduate students.