Graduate Faculty Council Minutes
September 11, 2018

Members Present: Kelly Steelman (Cog Sci), Will Cantrell (Atmo Sci), Ebenezer Tumban, (Bio Sci), Mari Buche (Bus and Data Sci), Julie King, & Becky Ong (Chem Eng), Shiyue Fang, (Chem), Veronica Webster (Civ Env Eng), Ben Ong (Data Sci), Mike Roggeman (ECE), Ann Maclean (SFRES), Ramon Fonkoue (Humanities), Qinghui Chen (KIP), Leonard Bohmann (Mat Scie Eng), Craig Friedrich (Mech Eng), Kari Henquinet (Peace Corps), Yoke Khin Yap (Physics), Chelsea Schelly (Soc Sci)

Guests Present: Pushpa Murthy (Grad Sch), Faith Morrison (Grad Sch), Mary Stevens (Grad Sch), Nancy Byers Sprague (Grad Sch), Apurva Baruah (GSG)

Approval of previous minutes
The April 24 minutes will be voted on during the next meeting.

Welcome new members!

New GFC chair:
• Veronica Webster was nominated to serve as Chair and approved on a voice vote.

Graduate faculty status - appointment and review (P. Murthy and F. Morrison)
• Old business: Modification of Graduate Faculty Status in the faculty handbook
  o The Graduate School proposal revises the policies and procedures governing Graduate Faculty Status to align with Higher Learning Commission expectations, as outlined in the proposal. The two tables in the proposal show the types of full and associate Graduate Faculty Status and what the roles are. Only individuals with full status are allowed to be the sole advisor of a student. In addition to being a sole advisor, individuals with full status can teach any graduate level class assigned, be a member of any graduate student advisory committee, and be a co-advisor.
  o Those with associate Graduate Faculty Status are assigned, when appointed, to serve on certain graduate student advisory committees, which co-advising they will do, and what classes they will teach.
  o An appeals process is added for changes or termination of Graduate Faculty Status. After reviewing several existing committees and the option of forming an ad hoc committee, the Graduate School recommends forming a standing appeals committee for the best functioning of the appeals process.
  o The Graduate School will make the suggested changes and corrections to the Recommendation for Appointment to Graduate Faculty Status form.
  o The decision was made to bring the proposal to a vote at the September 25 2018 meeting of the GFC. At that time there may be additional discussion of having a standing committee verses an ad hoc committee, if needed.

Old business: Further revision of external membership on graduate committees
• This second proposal from the Graduate School is to put the agreed upon functionality of who may serve as an external member on graduate student advisory committees into the language of full and associate Graduate Faculty Status; the language appears in table 1 of the proposal.
• It was suggested to add footnote 2 after table 1: “Nondepartmental programs are recommended to include at least one external member who is not a member of the program.”

A second September meeting will be scheduled in two weeks to continue discussing the proposals.

Motion to adjourn at 5:15 pm.