GFC Minutes, 1 November 2005

Present: Tess Ahlborn (CEE), Judith Perlinger (EPD2), Jimmy Diehl (GMES), Casey Huckins (SBL), Barry Solomon (SS), Mark Gockenbach (SMA), Soner Onder (CS), William Yarroch (ED), Brian Fick (SPH), Howard Wang (EMSE), Dan Adler (GSC), Carl Nesbitt (SCH), Ghatu Subhash (MEEM), Jackie Huntoon (GSO), Dana Johnson (SBE)

1. Minutes from the September meeting were approved with two editing corrections.
2. There were no nominations for secretary so the issue was tabled until the December meeting. Tess will take notes for this meeting only.
3. Jackie Huntoon, Dean of the Graduate School was introduced, followed by group introductions. She indicated Graduate School processes need review and that the GSO will be contacting GFC and representatives about this.
4. Plan D review, Dana Johnson: The proposal relative to the required oral examination in coursework master’s degrees is currently in the senate. She handed out the old version (05-05), the new version (xx-06), and a justification.
   a. Paragraph 3 is inconsistent & caused it not to pass
   b. Updated & sent to Martha Sloan, President Senate. Forwarded to Senate Curricular Policy Committee and is under review.
   c. Discussion of justification
      i. There have been a few cases of students failing oral exams but passing courses
      ii. What about denoting degree granted to say “coursework only”
      iii. MBA—many schools have no oral exam or thesis, and no residency requirements
      iv. Plan C – optional exam?
      v. Someone asked if changes can still be made while the proposal is in the Curricular Policy Committee
5. Ad Hoc Committees need to be set up
   a. Cognate/External members: Mark Gockenbach (Chair), Judith Perlinger, Jimmy Diehl, Barry Solomon.
      i. – who counts in a non-departmental (multi department) degree?
      ii. – we should have an option to have committee members allowed from outside of university. [Note: we do have this option. See http://www.admin.mtu.edu/rgs/graduate/GradFacPolicy.htm#adhoc ]
   b. Provisional/Conditional Admit: Dana Johnson (Chair), need members for this committee – especially those that are now currently admitting students provisionally or conditionally. Please contact Dana at dana@mtu.edu
6. Remuneration & Benefits Committee to consider the GSC effort to increase stipends and the possibility of fundraising for stipends: Ghatu Subhash, Howard Wang, Brian Fick, Dennis Lynch (Chair)
7. Each GFC rep needs to select a committee by Monday, November 7th or will be assigned to a committee. Committees will be asked to report out at each GFC meeting. Please notify mjvogler@mtu.edu
   a. Remuneration & Benefits
   b. Recognition & Rewards
   c. Recruitment & Graduation
   d. Cognate/External Committee Members (probably has enough unless you’re really interested)
   e. Provisional/Conditional Admit
8. The issue of whether to allow B/C grades in courses within the department to be used toward a degree will be addressed in later discussion.