University Council on Graduate Study
February 12, 2008
Minutes
3:00-5:00 p.m.
817 CL

Attending: Patricia Beeson (Chair), J. Patrick Card (A&S), Steve Carr (A&S), Nicole Constable (A&S), Valerie Copeland (Social Work), Robert Devaty (A&S), Judith Erlen (Nursing), Eleanor Feingold (GSPH), Amanda Godley (Education), Barbara Repasi Heron (Registrar), R. Donald Hoffman (Dental), John Horn (SOM), Yvonne Mburu (GPSA), Traci Nelson (A&S GSO), Louis Pingel (Education), Jayant Rajgopal (Engineering), Evelyn Rawski (A&S), Mae Smethurst (A&S), Stephanie Hoogendoorn (Provost’s Office)

I. Approval of Minutes
   The minutes of the January 8, 2008 meeting were approved as written.

II. Announcements
   • The Selection Committee is meeting to make recommendations for the 2008 Provost’s Award for Excellence in Mentoring.
   • The March meeting has been re-scheduled for March 18, 2008 since the original March 11 date falls during Spring Break.

III. Graduate Procedures Subcommittee Report (Eleanor Feingold)
   The Graduate Procedures Subcommittee presented its report on proposed guidelines for joint degrees programs with other foreign institutions. Council discussed the report and recommended that the report be revised to include the following:
   • A statement of purpose explaining what makes the program a joint program instead of two separate programs;
   • An example of what might constitute a good program; and
   • A statement clearly explaining the meaning of a joint degree program.

IV. Student Affairs Subcommittee Report (Judy Erlen)
   The Student Affairs Subcommittee presented its report on its recommendations for childbirth accommodations. Council had a lengthy discussion about the recommendations. By the end of the discussion, it was determined that there are three main topics to consider: academic accommodations, TA/TF/GSA/GSR accommodations for the birth mother, and TA/TF/GSA/GSR accommodations for new parents. For each of these topics, Council members identified a complex set of issues. The subcommittee will continue to think about these issues and revise the report accordingly.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m. The next meeting of Council will take place on March 18, 2008.