University Council on Graduate Study  
April 17, 2012  
Minutes  
3:00-5:00 p.m.  
817 CL

Attending  
Karen Arndt (Biological Sciences), Catherine Bender (Nursing), Stephen Carr (Arts and Sciences), Valire Copeland (Social Work), Robert Devaty (Arts and Sciences), Eleanor Feingold (Public Health), Maggie Folan (Pharmacy), Dennis Galletta (Business), Michael Gunzenhauser (Education), John Horn (Medicine), Nyasha Hungwe (Graduate and Professional Student Assembly), Jonathan Hurwitz (Arts and Sciences), Margaret Mahoney (Law), Karen Norris (Medicine), Robert Parker (Engineering), Jayant Rajgopal (Engineering), Alberta Sbragia (Provost’s Office and Arts and Sciences, Chair), Elizabeth Skidmore (Health Rehabilitation), Heiko Spallek (Dental), Martin Staniland (Public and International Affairs), Martin Weiss (Information Sciences), Stephanie Hoogendoorn (Provost’s Office)

Guests  
Jack Patzer from the Swanson School of Engineering  
Charles Nieman from the Office of International Services

Program Proposal: Post-baccalaureate, Graduate, and Post-professional certificates in Medical Product Innovation from the Swanson School of Engineering  
The certificate programs aim to provide students from Engineering, the Health Sciences, Katz, and Law with the basic competencies to effectively contribute to development of technological solutions to unmet clinical needs.

Council briefly discussed the proposed program. A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed Post-baccalaureate, Graduate, and Post-professional Certificates. All members voted in favor of recommending approval of the proposal.

Approval of the Minutes  
The minutes of the April 17, 2012 meeting were approved.

Announcements  
Alberta Sbragia asked each member from the Provost Area (Non-Health Sciences) schools to provide her, if possible, a contact for the post doctoral scholars and associates in their school. She also thanked members from each school for responding to a brief survey about their school’s Graduate Student Organization.

Nyasha Hungwe, President of the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, provided an overview of the accomplishments and activities from GPSA over the past 2011-2012 year. In particular, he

• highlighted GPSA’s efforts to communicate to students how the governor’s proposed budget cuts may impact graduate students;
• provided a summary of the GPSA’s budgetary areas which fund cultural groups that span
multiple schools, student travel grants for research purposes, social and academic programming, and supplemental funds for student groups; and

- explained that their communication efforts at the start of the 2011-12 term reached 2,000 student and at the end of the term are reaching 5,000 students. GPSA’s goal is to reach all 10,000-plus students.

Dr. Charles Nieman, Director of the Office of International Services provided an overview including data from a new survey tool administered to international undergraduate and graduate students at Pitt in 2011. Copies of the slides and data were distributed to members after the meeting. Over the summer, data broken down by school will hopefully be available and distributed to the appropriate Council member.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.