

## **Minutes of the Graduate Council (GC) Meeting of October 1, 2014**

Present: Andrews, Beise, Bennett, Caramello (chair), Delwiche, Dugan, Eno, Fu, Gibson, Hemingway, Kohn, Laskowski, Long, Paolisso, Rockcastle, Rowley, Simpson, Sosnowski, Sprinkle, Tilley, Tits, Wang, Wentzel, Wilkinson, Yaros

Staff: Chen, Franke, Leone, McAdams, Shayman, Woolston

### ***I. Approval of Minutes***

Minutes of the meeting of May 14, 2014 were approved with no emendations.

### ***II. Reports***

Dean Caramello updated the GC on several GS initiatives. The GS awarded \$11.7 million in awards and fellowships in AY 13-14. GS international initiatives included a joint seminar and research program on Frederick Douglass with University College Cork; participation in the Universitas21 Three Minute Thesis competition; funding of three students to attend the Universitas21 Conference on Aging in Auckland, New Zealand; funding of 12 IGRFs; continuation of the GS Tax Assistance Program for International Graduate Assistants; and placement of a third full-time International Intern in the GS from Denmark.

Dean Caramello reported that the GS New Graduate Student Orientation held on August 25, 2014, was very successful. Over 1,100 students attended and remained for the three-hour program and the following barbeque on Hornbake Plaza. The date for next year's orientation is August 24, 2015, 9 a.m. – 12 noon, followed by a lunch, 12 noon – 1 p.m. Colleges and programs should not hold orientation activities at this time to allow all new students to attend the GS Orientation.

Dean Caramello discussed the GS's communication efforts and focus for the future. Historically, GS communication has been internally focused. With the addition of a GS Communications Officer, the GS will add an external focus to its communication efforts. They will include contributing to the national conversation about graduate education and positioning UMD as a leader in graduate policy and practice.

GS Communications Officer Niambi Wilder-Winter reviewed progress in the GS to redesign the GS website and to improve communications to internal and external audiences through electronic and social media.

Director of Graduate Writing and TA Training Initiatives Linda Macri reviewed an early draft of a pilot faculty program aimed at training faculty to provide graduate writing programs at the college and program levels.

Dean Caramello discussed the preparation of PhD students for multiple career paths, a focus of the current national conversation on graduate education. The GS is creating a full time career services position to focus on this issue. The appointee will develop a pyramidal structure of programming at the campus, college, and program levels.

Councilor Sprinkle reviewed the working group memo *The Professional Doctorate at UMD*. The report discussed the current status of the professional doctorate on campus, what is emerging at the national level, and what unmet needs can be met by expanding professional doctorates while maintaining the integrity of the research doctoral degree.

Councilor Delwiche stated that the addition of a Professional Doctorate to UMD must be one that adds gravitas to the institution and satisfies rigid standards. This will be very challenging to put into guidelines.

Associate Provost Beise commented that there is a trend away from general masters programs to more specialized areas, i.e., business and education. Dr. Beise commented that the field of education would prefer more specialized credentials as opposed to amassing credits toward a general masters degree.

Councilor Rockcastle commented that there is an increasing demand in field of architecture for a Doctorate of Design, a specialized degree whose purposes are not met by the PhD.

The key issue in developing professional doctorates is demonstrating a demand that a current masters degree or research PhD is not meeting and developing such a degree within rigid guidelines.

Dean Caramello informed the GC that he will be meeting with Dr. Loh in the near future to discuss this topic and will update the council following that meeting.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 12 Noon.