Graduate Council Meeting

8 November 2010

Present: J. Newkirk, M. Fitch, K. Northcut, R. Landers, R. Stephenson, P. Neogi, G. Hilmas

Minutes approved (Stephenson/Hilmas) with minor spelling/grammar changes.

President Newkirk reported that the special committee on Stipend X will be meeting.

Committee Assignments – Graduate Faculty needs to elect a rep to curriculum committee. Nominated: Vincent Yu, M. Abdelsalam. Chair Newkirk will talk to nominees to see their interest in serving. No further action taken.

Electronic recording Dr. Samaranayake shared by e-mail that a candidate recorded a defense w/o informing the committee until the end of the presentation. He was concerned that there are no guidelines about recordings of such events. Dr. Samaranayake suggested by writing no electronic recording w/o written permission of the whole committee; no recoding of Q&A, nor of deliberations, nor of web-based communication. Discussion: may fall under state or federal laws. Having a policy might help clearly define for students what not to do. Fitch claimed Missouri Sunshine law appears to cover this item, and recording of an open meeting is sanctioned in that law. Closed meetings may not be recorded, and the deliberation is a closed meeting. General agreement was that no policy is needed, but sending a reminder might be a good idea. Motion (Hilmas/Landers) “Set no policy on this matter, send out a reminder to the faculty.” Motion approved. Chair Newkirk to talk to VPAllada about best way to send reminder.

C/F grade versus time limit McMillin had shared by e-mail a situation: in 1975 a student had two C’s in graduate credit. Graduate rules state that no course is carried beyond the limit of six years (MS) or eight years (PhD). Discussion largely focused on maturation of student over time, with several members opining that several years may make a large difference in maturity. Dr. McMillin had expressed concern that time may not heal all wounds. Motion (Stephenson/Northcut) “That no action be taken at this time.” Motion withdrawn; item to be carried forward to next meeting of GFC.

Membership for NTT faculty Dr. Showalter has asked by e-mail about membership of NTT faculty in Grad Fac and also about chairing a thesis committee. Neogi noted that UM Legal mandates job descriptions be substantially different for NTT from tenure-track. The Teaching Faculty description seems to exclude doing research. Dr. Stephenson noted that a Teaching NTT might be active in research. Dr. Neogi expressed concern that NTT doing research, teaching, and service may be able to petition the court for tenure. Fitch noted from the Faculty Senate rules that associate membership could be extended, but letter of the current rule (III.D.2) seems to exclude being chair of a committee “Visiting, Research, or Adjunct Professors, if granted membership, shall enjoy all other privileges and responsibilities of voting members, including the privilege to chair, serve on, and vote in graduate advisory committees.” Motion: (Stephenson/Hilmas) “**Recommend the Graduate Faculty consider the issue of NTT faculty membership in the graduate faculty when revising the bylaws.**” Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned 4:06 pm. Next meeting (time), room TBA