

Graduate Administrators Council (GAC)
Minutes for Thursday, September 1, 2011
Constant Hall, Room 2004
8:30 to 10:00 a.m.

Attending: Brenda Neumon Lewis, Chair, Missy Barber, Mona Danner, Sharon Judge, Christopher Osgood, David Selover, Osman Akan, Isao Ishibashi, Martha Walker, Ali Ardalan, Richardean Benjamin, Robert Wojtowicz, Mary Swartz

Approval of April 14, 2011 Minutes

Minutes were approved.

Confirmation of AY 2011-2012 Meeting Time

Dr. Lewis asked if the scheduled meeting start time of 8:30 a.m. was acceptable to everyone or if the time needed to be changed. The consensus of the Council was to keep the current schedule. Council will continue to meet every other Thursday from 8:30 to 10:00 am.

Announcements/Updates

The 2011-2012 Graduate Catalog will be finished soon. As soon as it is completed, the Council will be notified.
CGS Awards Dr. Lewis passed out descriptions on the 2011 CGS awards. Everyone was encouraged to consider nominating individuals for these awards. Award recipients receive a monetary award, get support to go to the CGS conference, and get recognized at the CGS banquet. Dr. Lewis will set an internal deadline for submission along with guidelines.

New Graduate Student Orientation There was an outstanding turnout with 155 students attending. The evaluations were very positive. Students appreciate seeing representatives from their respective colleges, so it was suggested that there be greater participation from the associate deans and graduate program directors in the program. Concern was expressed regarding the possibility of duplication of information between New Graduate Student Orientation and International Student Orientation. Dr. Lewis said that she would check to see what is offered to students to try to minimize duplication.

GTAI Institute There were 138 participants and 128 evaluations. The evaluations were generally positive. A couple of comments indicated that students would like a more interactive program and that we should minimize the amount of paper that we distribute and provide information on the web.

Dissertation Support Group This group is being offered by the Counseling Center. Associate Deans were asked programs. Dr. Lewis will

Virginia Council of Graduate Schools Planning grant awarded for increasing students of color. This will provide an opportunity for working together to develop strategies in student recruitment across the Commonwealth. Dr. Lewis said there will be a conference and she will possibly be able to bring five or six people with her. There is a meeting next week among the members of VCGS to discuss this grant.

An issue was brought forward to the Council regarding a student that had been suspended from her program that wanted to take a graduate course. Because she was suspended from her program, she did not have the opportunity that she would have been afforded under the University continuance policy where she would have had 12 credit hours to raise her GPA. Currently, when a suspension occurs, regardless of whether it is by the degree program or the University, a student cannot register for any graduate courses,. Options were discussed such as switching the student to non-degree or another degree-

Allocation of assistantship funds, waiver allocations. Departments are expected to pick up the waiver costs. Dr. Lewis will invite Jim Duffy to the next meeting.