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Academic Policy Committee Report - August 30, 2012

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ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 2012, 2:15 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

111 STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING

Present: Stefanie Ohnesorg (Chair), Ralph Brockett, Yanfei Gao, Carolyn R. Hodges, Jennifer Morrow, Peggy Pierce, Kay Reed, Amanda Sanford, Shawn Spurgeon, Ahmad Vakili.

The meeting was called to order by Stefanie Ohnesorg, Chair, at 2:15 p.m. Ohnesorg provided a summary of procedures for the committee and its role in the Graduate Council. Introductions were provided by each member.

Ohnesorg stated that some of the topics to be covered on the agenda for the 2012-2013 year were policies on videoconferencing of thesis/dissertation defenses, credit hour definition, and conditional admission for English language instruction.

Agenda items for this meeting were:

Doctoral Language Exam Policy – a discussion concerning the proposal from the faculty in the Department of Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures (MFL) was revisited from an earlier presentation in 2011-2012. The faculty from MFL had introduced a proposal to the APC in October 2011 and the APC had responded in March 2012. A response was then developed in April 2012, which outlined nine points of concern from MFL faculty about the administration of the doctoral language exam. Following a discussion of the points of concern, the APC recommended that the faculty from MFL and the faculty/Directors of Graduate Studies from the departments in which the doctoral language exam is required should meet together to further review the policy and how the exam should be administered. A September 2012 meeting should be convened and also invite representatives of the Graduate Council and the Graduate School.

Thesis Registration Requirement – Kay Reed briefly discussed concerns about issues of the severity of requiring thesis students to register for three hours of 500 in a semester if all components of the thesis were not submitted successfully by the graduation deadlines in a term.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 4, 2012.