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Graduate Associate Deans' Group Minutes - April 12, 2018

Graduate Council

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Graduate Associate Deans

April 12, 2018 – Minutes

Members Attending: Dixie Thompson (Vice-Provost & Dean of the Graduate School) – Chair; Jeffrey Fairbrother (Education, Health, & Human Sciences); Masood Parang (Tickle College of Engineering); John Stier (CASNR); Sherry Cummings (Social Work); Mary Gunther (Nursing); Katherine Ambroziak (Architecture & Design); Michael Palenchar (Communication & Information); Claudia Kirk (Veterinary Medicine); Kate Atchley (for Bruce Behn, Haslam Business); Charles Noble (Haslam Business)

Ex Officio: Yvonne Kilpatrick (Graduate School); Sara Bradberry (Graduate School)

- I. Welcome & Call to Order at 2 pm by Dixie Thompson.
- II. **Minutes** from February 2018 were approved as presented.
- III. **Graduate School Updates:**

3MT 2018 – Everything about the event went well except attendance. Discussed possible strategies for next year. It was determined that we will have materials ready in August so that colleges can get the word out early. While we don't have an exact date yet, we can say that the 2019 event will take place during the first week of April, and that we will ask for nominees in January 2019 so that we can begin to put together the semi-finals.

GPSAW – events overall went very well. Good participation; students seemed to enjoy the various activities. We had partners across campus who planned events for graduate students...it was a great week.
- IV. **Posthumous Awarding of Degrees** - (Dixie Thompson) - Discussed a recent request that was received from a college to award a posthumous degree for a student who had completed about 2/3 of their requirements when they passed away. This is something that we consider on a case-by-case basis; it is a rare occurrence, but certainly something to consider when a college feels it is warranted.
- V. **Review of Recently Approved APC Changes** (Handout) – Dixie Thompson/Sara Bradberry
 - a. Revised English certification language
 - b. Changing “Problem in Lieu of Thesis” to “Project Option”
 - c. Removal of comprehensive exams for non-thesis students
 - d. Repeat policy allowing students to repeat two courses to raise a grade and a new form to allow students to re-take a course
 - e. Accelerated Combined Bachelors/Masters Degree
 - f. Revision of English Proficiency

Note: We will assist colleges with catalog changes if they are needed this Fall to reflect information related to these new policies.

Also Reviewed the Rules for PhD Committees and the Requirements for Committee Chairs (Handout) – Dixie Thompson

- VI. **Catalog Updates** – Sara Bradberry (for Mary Albrecht) - We are continuing to proof and edit the catalog in preparation of our move to DARS. All departments should take a look at their graduate requirements and submit necessary curricular changes during the Fall 2018 meetings to be effective Fall 2019. Make sure the catalog, handbook and website all agree. Mary and Sara will reach out on items they are not sure about as they are proofing the catalog, but departments should feel free to reach out to them, as well.

Closing: Call for Final Items/Discussion

Meeting Adjourned @ 3:30