

Graduate Faculty Council
Tuesday 10/3/06 4:00pm

1. Called to Order 4:05 pm
2. Minutes of 9/5/06 approved
3. Mary Durfee, Assistant Provost: Summer Undergrad Research Fellows (SURF)
 - Requesting feedback from GFC w.r.t selection of SURFs, specifically mix of Soph., Junior, Senior SURFs. How is current “flow” of SURFs working for faculty?
 - Summer SURF posters on display this Saturday 12-3 Fisher Hall
 - Funded 26 SURFs last year; expect similar this year; most were “advanced” Juniors & Seniors
 - Due date mid-January for students to apply
 - Request for faculty to review applicants will go out end of Fall term
 - W.R.T recruiting: SURFs are more interested in Grad School after SURF then before
4. Carl Anderson: MS committees
 - Currently MS Plan A, B, & C have 4 member committees
 - Is this an efficient use of Faculty time? Is a full 4 member committee necessary for MS?
 - Requests GFC to initiate discussion within Department’s to ‘test the waters’ re: possibility to move to a 3 member MS committee
 - If idea has support, next step would be to benchmark other universities
 - It was pointed out that 3 would be a minimum and Departments or individual Prof.’s would be welcome to continue with 4 (or more) as this is preferred by some Departments e.g. Biology
5. Jackie Huntoon: general comments
 - progress on GRE & other testing available @ MTU; refer to email(s) sent to GFC by Huntoon
 - Grad School enrollment status
 - elimination of on-line Grad School application fee
6. Jackie Huntoon: ‘Graduate faculty’ appointments
 - Discussed last meeting; revised document was emailed to GFC after last meeting;
 - Wording and policy has been modified and is now in agreement & compliance with both Senate and BOC
7. Jackie Huntoon: Policies regarding Grad Student ‘Full-Time Status’, ‘Continuous Enrollment’, ‘Waiver of Continuous Enrollment’ (aka Last Term waiver)
 - GFC reviewed proposed policy changes which Huntoon emailed to GFC prior to meeting
 - Majority of changes related to Full-Time Status and Continuous Enrollment are intended for clarification and not really policy change
 - Modifications to Waiver of Continuous Enrollment policy does reflect a policy change
 - Discussion of issues with current policy, notably related to ‘back-charging’ students who fail to complete their degree requirements during the Last Term
 - Requests GFC to brainstorm possible improvement to policy
 - Suggestion offered: if a student fails to complete requirements during Last Term then next term should be billed at Full Time (no attempting to ‘back-charge’); i.e. a student only gets ONE Last Term waiver
8. Jackie Huntoon: Senior Rule
 - Undergrad credits intended to be used in a Grad degree are treated as Transfer Credits thus can account for no more than 1/3 of Grad credits
9. Meeting adjourned at 5:01pm

Attendance (Affiliation)

Jason Keith (President)
Mary Durfee (Assistant Provost)
Jackie Huntoon (Grad School)
Nancy Byers-Sprague (Grad School)
Tess Ahlborn (CEE)
Jianping Dong (Math)
Brian Davis (School of Technology)
Beth Flynn (Humanities)
Carl Anderson (ME-EM)
Jimmy Diehl (Geology / Mining)
Patrick Martin (Social Sciences)
Melissa Meyer (EE)
Nancy Auer (Biology)
David Tobias (GSC)