**GRADUATE COUNCIL**

**Minutes**

Wednesday, September 21, 2016

4:15 – 5:30 p.m., 3150 Beardshear Hall   
[www.grad-council.iastate.edu](http://www.grad-council.iastate.edu/)

1. **Call to Order** - Chair of Council – Debra Marquart

a. Seating of substitute council members: Joe Sebranek for Steven Longeran

# Consent Agenda A motion was made and seconded to approve the consent agenda. All in favor. None against. None Abstain. 8-0.

1. Minutes of Graduate Council Meeting, August 30, 2016
2. Agenda for September 21 Meeting
3. [GCCC items](http://www.grad-council.iastate.edu/gccc-agenda-items) – For Full Information: [https://www-grad-council.sws.iastate.edu/2 015-2016-docket.](https://www-grad-council.sws.iastate.edu/2%20015-2016-docket) 
   1. X Course Proposal -- [C E 489X/589X:](https://nextcatalog.registrar.iastate.edu/cimx/?key=615) Pavement Preservation and Rehabilitation
   2. X Course Proposal -- ENSCI 483X/583X: Environmental Biogeochemistry
   3. X Course Proposal -- Hort 476X/576X: Horticultural Postharvest Technology iv. Dual List Request TOX 401/501
   4. Change NREM 504 course from 4 to 3 credits
   5. Request to establish TOX 490X
   6. Master of Design in Sustainable Environments (double degree proposal)
   7. Master of Urban Design (double degree proposal)
   8. Name change proposal for Women’s Studies

# Announcements and Remarks

1. Graduate Council Chair – Debra Marquart  
   The new Graduate Faculty membership committee will include the Vice Chair, plus four others. Members need not be a member of the Graduate Council. Submit nominations to Deb.   
   GC members were encouraged to check with constituents about issues and bring them back to Council for discussion/agenda items.
2. Associate Provost and Graduate Dean – David Holger   
   Holger recently returned from the AAU Graduate Deans meeting. He reported that other universities are wrestling with some of the same issues as ISU, such as committee membership, internal/external members, etc. The new Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) will affect Post Docs. Approximately 75% of the universities are going to raise the minimum Post Doc salary to the $47,476 threshold. At ISU, approximately 160 Post Docs are below the required threshold. Conversations are continuing on how to handle the change. If Post Doc salaries are not changed, we will need to track hours and pay time and one-half for any over-time. Some AAU institutions do not have minimum salary levels for Post Docs. AAU Deans are considering possible elimination of part-time Post Docs. FSLA will also impact P & S employees. Graduate students are not affected.   
     
   Other items: The results of a recent Diversity and Inclusion Survey are being reviewed to ascertain the current climate students are experiencing. Health insurance for students may need to be reviewed. Tuition proposals for Fall 2017 are on their way to Board of Regents office: 2% undergraduate, 3% graduate students, with continued phase-in for international students. If phased tuition (higher junior/senior level) goes into effect, graduate tuition will need to be reviewed.
3. Associate Graduate Dean – William Graves – no comments
4. Assistant Graduate Dean – Craig Ogilvie – no comments

# Old Business Items — Debra Marquart

1. Nominations for Vice-Chair – Discussion  
   Steven Longeran was nominated. Marquart shared a statement submitted by Longeran. A motion was made to nominate Longeran for Vice-Chair. All if favor, none opposed, none abstain. 11-0. Steven Longeran is the Vice-Chair for the Graduate Council, 2016-2017.
2. Proposal for Addition of GC Executive Committee to Standing Committee Structure. The Executive Committee will consult with the Chair, oversee specific assignments, follow through with votes and implementation of changes to the By-laws Constitution, etc. It is the expectation that the out-going chair would participate. This committee would not have voting rights, but serve in an advisory role. The number of years that past chairs will serve needs to be specified. A motion was made and seconded to create the executive committee. Deb to work with Allen Miller to finalize the motion for the October meeting.

# New Business — Debra Marquart

1. Discussion of Overage Course Policy – Pamela Riney-Kerhberg  
   Any course over 7 years old will trigger special information needed from major professor and the students. The 7-year time limit doesn’t make sense for social sciences and humanities, where information doesn’t become old. Job, family, life events, and distance participation frequently put students over the time limit. The median time for Ph.D. in History is 8 years. A discussion took place regarding time limits in various disciplines and the number of classes on a POSC that are overage. The main concerns were: 1. Disadvantages online students. 2. Information needed for justification is onerous. Should the policy apply for students with previous degrees or transfer of classes. Graves stated the vast majority of cases are approved. Only extreme requests (all over-age classes) are denied. Main benefit is to alert committee members to time to degree. Other universities have about the same age limit as ISU. Changing the time limit to 10 may be an option and Departments can be more restrictive. More information needs to be collected about time to degree for various disciplines.
2. Clarification of Graduate Assistantship Tuition Scholarship policy – Levi Stanley  
   Questions were brought up regarding students on appointment for less than 3 months and how their tuition was assessed and paid. Nothing has changed in the Graduate College Policy for the past several years.

6. **Old Business** – Debra Marquart

a. Proposal to Change Non-Thesis Final Exam

Deb circulated an old motion that has been tabled. Discussion will be taken up at future meetings.

# Next Meeting will be Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2016, 4:15 – 5:30 p.m., 3150 Beardshear Hall