College of Education  
Graduate Studies Leadership Team (GSLT)  
Minutes of October 1, 2014

Present: J. Lehman, P. VanFossen, H. Servaty-Seib, R. Frisbie, B. Nemelka, and K. Dietz

J. Lehman welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the academic year and members introduced themselves.

Discussion Items:

1. Revisit GRE Waivers: Should program areas make the decisions for GRE waivers? (Lehman/Dietz)

   The current policy for GRE waivers comes from the GSLT meeting of January 20, 2010:

   *Does any waiver of GREs need to be approved by the appropriate Graduate Committee or Department Head? What should be the policy for recommendation of admission by faculty for a student with unofficial GREs?*

   After discussion, the group decided that any program area that wishes to waive the requirement of GRE scores for a particular student must obtain approval via a waiver request from the appropriate department entity; i.e., the C&I Waiver Subcommittee or the EDST Graduate Chair. The waiver request should be submitted through the Office of Graduate Studies.

   Recently, the question arose again with the beginning of admissions for the new online special education program due to a couple of requests asking for GRE waivers for two students. Discussion followed:

   - The C&I Graduate Committee and EDST Graduate Chair have had only a few waiver requests for the GRE in the past.
   - The GREs are part of the admission requirement and the recommended combined score for our applicants is low.
   - Should program areas be the group to make the decisions for GRE waivers?
   - Would the graduate committee or the graduate chair ever go against the recommendation of the program for a particular student?

   *Followup: It was decided to ask the graduate committees to review the current policy and to discuss their recommendations at the next GSLT meeting in November.*
2. *iThenticate* Update (Lehman)

Over the summer the Graduate School announced the addition of a statement on the deposit Form 32 Thesis/Dissertation Agreement, Publication Delay, and Research Integrity & Copyright Disclaimer which indicates that the student’s manuscript has been scanned by *iThenticate*. This statement requires the signature of the major professor and the student. The implementation of this new requirement was September 1, 2014. Dr. Lehman has requested accounts for 18 faculty members who do not currently have an account with *iThenticate*. Dr. Peter Dunn in the Office of the Executive Vice President for Research and Partnerships is the point of contact for opening accounts.

It was suggested that we continue to encourage that there be university-wide workshops for faculty and graduate students for running the program and interpreting the results. Dr. Lehman said there will be training materials online.

*Follow up:* Dr. Lehman will send a link of the training materials to faculty and students when available.

3. GEA Updates (Lehman)

Besides discussion regarding *iThenticate* and Technolutions Slate (see #5 below), other updates included the following:

- There is a push by the Office of the Registrar that courses be updated to reflect correct prerequisites. Graduate students, however, are exempt from being flagged for not taking the appropriate prerequisites.

- The Graduate School is developing an eBook for graduate students which will include case studies of Purdue students with tools for better understanding the graduate experience.

4. Update of annual review of COE graduate students (Dietz)

The College of Education has finished its third year of requiring annual reviews of all its graduate students. For Spring 2014, 100 percent of Curriculum and Instruction graduate students were reviewed; 99 percent in Educational Studies.

5. New Vendor, Technolutions Slate, for Graduate School Applications (Dietz)

The Graduate School has been reviewing application and client relationship management systems for a new system for ApplyYourself and Hobsons Connect systems currently being used. One vendor met most of the Graduate School’s requests. In September a demonstration was given for faculty and staff across campus. A smaller committee of representatives from graduate offices attended a meeting later and gave positive feedback of the system. Three key features being considered as noted in the September/October issue of The Grad Connection Newsletter are:
• A single relational database for prospective and applicant records allowing for more accurate data tracking from prospect through admission.

• Integrated faculty review functionality that will allow programs to review and track submitted applications electronically all in one system.

• Strong system performance and user experience, including more mobile-friendly interfaces and cutting-edge email communication capabilities.

The Graduate School has been checking references and plans to make a decision in the near future and would like to implement the new system perhaps for Fall 2016 applications.

Currently, the College of Education is using the GAR system for faculty review supported by the College of Science. The Associate Deans in GEA whose colleges are using GAR believed that it would be better to continue with that system for reviewing applications and then move to the new Graduate School system for faculty review when it is available rather than moving to the KAdmissions system used by the School of Krannert at the present time. The GSLT group thought that action would be appropriate.

6. Other?

There were no other discussion items.

Announcements:

• Get Together for fellowship awardees with Associate Deans and Department Heads: October 29, 2014

• Multicultural-Historically Black Institution Visitation Program: November 6, 2014

• Next GSLT Meeting: November 19, 2014, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., BRNG 6115

• The Graduate Student Education Council (GSEC) is promoting its new website at www.purduegsec.weebly.com. Events during the year will focus on Discovery, Learning, and Engagement, with the Annual Graduate Student Educational Symposium on March 3, 2015.