

## Minutes

Graduate School  
Committee on Academic Staff Issues  
Monday, January 27th 2014 from 1:30 – 2:30 pm

Bascom Rm 350

Minutes: Jenny Hackel

**Present:** Alex Converse, Julie Schears, Nicci Schmidt, Julie Karpelenia, Jenny Hackel, Tom Zinnen, Judith Baumann

**Absent:** Kristin Harmon, Kristin Crosno, Moira Harrington, Wayne Feltz, John Richards

**Convene** 1:30 pm

### **Welcome and Chair Comments**

### **Other Business**

Review charge and discuss topics for meeting with Working Group on Leadership Changes in the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research/Dean of the Graduate School (VCR/DGS) on Wed, January 29<sup>th</sup> 1-2p in Room 2135 of Wisconsin Energy Institute Building

*Timeline:* Denny Hackel on ASEC indicated that instead of the report being due by the middle of February for acceptance at the Faculty Senate meeting, it won't go to the Faculty Senate until their April meeting. CASI is unclear if this means the report won't be due until later or if this is simply more time for the campus to review the report and provide input.

*History:* In summer 2009, Chancellor Bidy Martin released a PVL to formalize the position of Vice Chancellor for Research. To this date, Graduate School Dean Martin Cadwallader held the position of Dean of the Graduate School, working title Vice Chancellor for Research. Governance was taken by surprise at the proposal. The Faculty Senate passed a resolution objecting to the change until a written plan was developed to explain the need for change and could be analyzed and vetted by governance. An Ad Hoc Committee to Determine the Needs and Structure was formed, studied the proposal, and the Faculty Senate passed the following recommendations as a result of their report: #1 Retain a close relationship between research and graduate education, #2 Create a new position of Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of the Graduate School, #3 Expand and support the roles of four divisional Associate Deans of the Graduate School, #4 Move Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (RSP) to the Vice Chancellor for Administration, #5 The Graduate Faculty Executive Committee (GFEC) will have representation on any committee charged with deliberations concerning either graduate education at the University of Wisconsin Madison or the GFEC itself. Most of these recommendations have since been implemented.

*Current status:* Chancellor Rebecca Blank is proposing to split the position of Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of the Graduate School into two positions citing that the Vice Chancellor for Research needs a greater national presence and the job is too big for one person to fill. The charge to the Working Group on Leadership Change in the Office of the VCR/DGS is not to explore if it is a good idea to split the positions, rather the committee

being charged to explore the proposed a leadership structure split, identify any issues created by the split, and make recommendations how to resolve those issues.

Goals of upcoming meeting with the committee:

1. Provide overview of GS CASI. Who are we, what do we do, explain our relationship with Dean Cadwallader.
  - a. We are in a unique CASI position to be able to report directly to both the Vice Chancellor for Research and the Dean of Graduate Education representing over 700 academic staff members within the Grad School Centers
2. What timeline does the committee have for generating, circulating, and approving the report? Will implementation of any recommendations be held off until approved by governance?
3. What can the GS-CASI do to help the committee?
4. Additional questions about the proposed split
  - a. How is the committee planning to ensure effective governance structures within the Graduate School and research policy?
    - i. Current CASI position allows us to directly communicate with the person who has responsibility and authority for these areas
  - b. Where does the committee see the Graduate School Centers fitting into the new structure?
    - i. Being interdisciplinary in nature, the best home for the Grad School Centers is to remain with the Graduate School or reporting to the Vice Chancellor for Research, not other schools/colleges.
  - c. Despite many hurdles in federal funding, UW Madison continues to succeed at a very high level. Can you give specific examples of things broken in the current structure that necessitates this structural change? Even if this change is proactive, how will we as a campus be better off as a result of splitting this into two positions?
  - d. What will the Org chart look like with the proposed position?
    - i. Is the Office of Federal Relations report to the VCR?
  - e. How will the VCR be integrated into Graduate Education to ensure a close relationship with research and graduate education? The sense from the charge and background materials seems to indicate that the VCR will focus on research and the DGS will focus on Grad Education. The only apparent tie between the two seems to be that the DGS will report to the VCR.

We need to issue an agenda prior to the meeting as well as prioritize our questions/feedback. Homework will be for each person to consider any other questions they may have

**Adjourn 2:45 pm**

**Next Meeting:**

February 10, 2013; Dean Cadwallader & Dean Wendy Crone to lead discussion on strategic plan for the Graduate School

Time: 1:30-3:00pm

Bascom Hall Rm 334

**Future Minutes:** Alex Converse

Respectfully submitted,  
Jenny Hackel