BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 16, 2012 MEETING OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

PLACE: Couper Administrative Building - Room148

PRESIDING: Nancy E. Stamp, Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School


EX OFFICIO MEMBERS: Elizabeth Brown, Paul Parker, Florence Margai

GUESTS: Harvey Stenger, President

EXCUSED: Laura Collins, Stephen Gilje, Dina Maramba, Chuck Nelson

ABSENT: George Catalano, Wayne Jones, Nicholas Kaldis, Susan Lu, Tongshu Ma, Debi Mishra, Benita Roth

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Provost and Dean Nancy Stamp called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

II. MINUTES:

The minutes of the March 19, 2012 Graduate Council Meeting were approved as written.

III. COMMITTEES

Academic Standards Committee

This committee met on April 2nd to brainstorm in preparation for President Stenger’s visit to Graduate Council.

Advisory Committee on Scholarship and Research

This committee met to review proposals for the Interdisciplinary Collaborative Research Grant Program and two were selected for awards.

Budget Advisory Committee

This committee has not met.

Clark Fellowship Committee

This committee has not met.

Curriculum Committee
This committee met on April 2\textsuperscript{nd} at and approved a proposal for an Advanced Graduate Certificate in Complex Systems Science and Engineering. This is an interdisciplinary proposal that will offer students enrolled in graduate programs at Binghamton University an opportunity to acquire advanced knowledge and research skills in the emerging field of Complex Systems Science and Engineering.

The motion was made to accept the proposal and all were in favor.

**Excellence Awards/Grievance Committee**

This committee has not met.

**Strategic Planning Committee**

This committee met on April 2\textsuperscript{nd} to brainstorm in preparation for President Stenger's visit to Graduate Council.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

President Harvey Stenger attended Graduate Council and discussed the following two questions: 1) How can we enhance academic excellence at Binghamton University and 2) What will be the characteristics of the premier public university of the 21\textsuperscript{st} century?

President Stenger addressed Graduate Council by saying that Binghamton University needs to look carefully at its size, quality and scope of its Graduate Program to become the premier public university in the nation. He stated that we need to have a greater graduate student population, and we need to look for creative ways to make that happen, such as better marketing and recruiting. He stated that we need to build our reputation, both nationally and internationally, to provide career directed master’s programs for our students and to provide career development guidance.

Discussion ensued among Graduate Council in ways to achieve some of the goals that President Stenger addressed. One idea was to increase enrollment by increasing visibility of programs and offering more student support, in terms of funds and internships. Another idea was to try and retain more of our undergraduate students for graduate study. One way is to market bachelor-master combined programs to our current undergraduate students.

Associate Dean Margai stated that the Graduate School continues to work on initiatives designed to enrich the experience of graduate students on campus. The Graduate School offers a virtual orientation to all of their graduate students, along with a live orientation. ESL students who are international TA’s take an online course 6 weeks before they arrive on campus to prepare them on what to expect when teaching at an American University.

Dean Stamp stated that discussion regarding increasing the enrollment of graduate students will continue over the next several months.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 on by Professor Regan and seconded by Associate Vice President for Research, Stephen Gilje.

Minutes recorded by Cheryl McGowan,
Secretary to the Vice Provost and Dean
of the Graduate School