Graduate Council
Meeting Minutes
1/13/11 – Taylor 404

Supporting, facilitating and promoting excellence in lifelong education
through graduate programs of distinction, innovative outreach programs and a diverse student body.

Attendance –
Members present: Katie Anderson, Josh Bacon, Deborah Bandalos, Lynette Bible, Michael Busing, Bud Clarke, Patcie Brevard, Harriet Cobb, Corinne Diop, Lennis Echterling, Teresa Gonzalez, Ralph Grove, Patty Hale, Dan Halling, Jim Hammond, Greg Henriques, Gary Kirk, Reid Linn, Jeff Loveland, A.J. Morey, Susan Murphy, Steve Reich, Elizabeth Ridley, Peggy Shaeffer, Jane Thall, Kathy Thompson, Melissa Van Vuuren, Patti Warner, Roshna Wunderlich, Mo Zarrugh, Tracie Zimmerman for Pavel Zemliansky, and Rhonda Zingraff.

Programs not represented: English, Accounting, Education, Exceptional Education, Kinesiology, Mathematics, Music, and Psychological Sciences

Approval of Minutes – The November 11, 2010, minutes were approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• All course/program requests to take effect summer or fall 2011 must be submitted by February 3. Catalog copy for each graduate program must be reviewed, revised, and submitted to Kristi Shackelford no later than February 28.

• Deadline for Provost Award in Advising has been extended to January 28. Nominate a graduate adviser. www.jmu.edu/universitystudies/advising_award.shtml

• Madison, the JMU magazine welcomes news items (including activities and projects) as well as stories about graduate programs or graduate (Masters, Ed.S, or Doctoral) students. You may submit story ideas to Michelle Hite (martinmh@jmu.edu) or Paula Polglase, our Public Affairs Associate (polglaph@jmu.edu).

REPORTS

CAP – No report.

A-Team – No report

C&I – Kathy reported on SACS updates: continue to emphasize syllabus; there must be documentation for thesis and independent study courses; emphasize difference in objectives and requirements of dual-level courses. Steve Reich offered to share history’s thesis guidelines. Additionally, she reported on SCHEV and education reform focusing on economic growth and job opportunity. The Online Curriculum system is still not working properly, and Council members were urged to contact Leslie Fisher (568-4064) in Kristi Shackelford’s office for help with system problems.

Honor Council – No report

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Presidential Search – Sharon Lovell reported on the search committee’s membership and as well as its conduct and information sharing through the B.O.V. Sharon spent time receiving feedback from the group on characteristics and attributes that the group desired in a presidential candidate. Members may email her (lovellse@jmu.edu) with additional thoughts and suggestions at any time.
**VAGEP Planning Grant Submitted to NSF (by Virginia Council of Graduate Schools)** – Reid Linn reported that The Virginia Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (VAGEP) will serve as the facilitating organization for this “planning” grant in partnership with the Virginia Community Colleges, HBCUs, and the Appalachian Colleges Association. As part of the planning grant, we propose to conduct a statewide survey of students in STEM programs to assess the state-specific reasons why they succeed (or not) in STEM disciplines. In addition, we propose to hold two statewide conferences/workshops to discuss best practices across the state, discuss the needs of students as assessed from the survey, and prepare the major proposal in 2012. Our ultimate goal is to create a structured mentoring network to attract talented students through undergraduate studies to graduate education and ultimately to the professoriate.

**VCGS Video Project** – Reid reported that Since August 1, ten (3-minute) videos have been produced showcasing outstanding graduate students and their research from the following state-supported schools in Virginia: William & Mary, James Madison, Old Dominion, Christopher Newport, Virginia Commonwealth, Virginia Tech, University of Virginia, Radford, George Mason and Longwood. Three additional videos are anticipated profiling students from Norfolk State, Mary Washington and Virginia State. These institutions represent the membership of the Virginia Council of Graduate Schools. The first showing of these videos will be at the VCGS Graduate Student Research Forum on February 3 when the videos will play in succession in an adjacent room to the exhibition halls. Each university will be able to use their video in any way they choose (e.g., to market a graduate program, graduate student research, faculty support etc.). Additionally, a 6-7 minute video will be created which includes edited portions of every student. This informational video is entitled *A Commonwealth of Knowledge – Graduate Student Research Across Virginia*. All videos will be available on the VCGS website as a way of both showcasing Virginia’s graduate student researchers and driving prospective students to the various state institutions. A copy *A Commonwealth of Knowledge* will be sent to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV). The Council viewed portions of the videos.

**VCGS Graduate Student Research Forum Feb. 3 (Library of Virginia in Richmond)** – Reid reported that the students selected to represent JMU are:

**Allison Wood** – Adult Education/Human Resource Development (M.S.Ed.)
Undergraduate Institution: James Madison University
Hometown: Richmond, Virginia
Title of Presentation: Using Social Media to Improve Student Engagement in Online Courses

**Jason Kopp** – Psychological Sciences (M.A.)
Undergraduate Institution: James Madison University
Hometown: Midlothian, Virginia
Title of Presentation: Measuring Entitlement in Higher Education

**Lauren M. Matyisin** – Educational Technology (M.Ed.)
Undergraduate Institution: James Madison University
Hometown: Vernon, New Jersey
Title of Presentation: The Impact of Computer Assisted Instruction on Early Literacy Development

**Anna Zilberberg** – Assessment and Measurement (Ph.D.)
Undergraduate Institution: Wellesley College
Hometown: Boston, Massachusetts
Title of Presentation: Detecting Autistic Traits in a Non-Clinical Population: Dimensionality of the Short Version of Autism-Spectrum Quotient (AQ-26)

**Lindsey A. Mayberry** – Psychological Sciences (M.A.)
Undergraduate Institution: James Madison University
Hometown: Virginia Beach, Virginia
Title of Presentation: An Examination of Impulsivity in Women with Eating Disorders

**Zachary Hittie** – Integrated Science and Technology (M.S.)
Undergraduate Institution: James Madison University
Hometown: Harrisonburg, Virginia
Title of Presentation: Integrating GIS with Address and Building Pre-planning for Emergency Responders

➡️ FOR THE NEXT MEETING: Program Updates and Idea Sharing – Reid asked each program to share any new and exciting aspects of their programs with the group.

The following course requests were approved by the Graduate Council:

**LEAD 695**
New SPECIAL TOPICS IN LEADERSHIP
In-depth study of current topics in the field of Strategic Leadership Studies. Content varies depending on the topic and instructor. May be repeated for different Special Topics.

The following program requests were approved by the Graduate Council:

**KINESIOLOGY - EXERCISE SCIENCE Changes**
[https://secureweb.jmu.edu/curric/GRAD/1290003943.21877](https://secureweb.jmu.edu/curric/GRAD/1290003943.21877)

**EXED 508**
New THE NATURE AND ISSUES OF EXCEP
This course is designed to support study of the historical perspectives, models, theories, philosophies, and trends that provide the basis for exceptional education practice. The status of persons with exceptionalities, legislative and judicial mandates and current regulation related to individuals with exceptionalities will be stressed. The role of culture, environment, family education, and government on exceptionalities will be explored.