The meeting began at 1:30 p.m. Members in attendance were: Michael Bahr, Haiyan Cai, Cynthia Dupureur, Stephen Moehrle, Michael Murray, Wendy Olivas, David Ronen

Members absent: Carl Bassi, Sally Ebest, Teresa Guess, Ruth Jenkins, Susan Kashubeck-West (FS 07 leave of absence), David Kimball, Bill Kyle, Richard Rosenfeld. Adam Michalski, Co-President of the Graduate Student Organization was present as a guest.

I. Graduate Student Organization

The Graduate Student Organization recently has been recognized by the Student Government Association. Aaron along with co-president Karin Tusinski has been attending meetings and conferences with other student organization of the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students (NAGPS). Currently, the organization has been working on the vending machine issue and lack of internet access with the biology student association. The Dean encouraged the directors to mention the organization to their students. The next meeting of the group will be held on November 7 at Blueberry Hill.

II. Minutes

The minutes of the September 21, 2007 meeting were approved.

III. Curriculum proposals

Council reviewed and discussed the following course proposals:

Comm 4100 Communication Campaigns (NEW)
Music 4280 American Music (NEW)
Hist 5140 Topics in Metropolitan History (NEW)
Hist 5141 Topics in Regional History (NEW)
Hist 5142 Topics in National History (NEW)
Hist 5143 Readings in Transnational History (NEW)
Hist 6111 Readings in European History to 1715 (NEW)
Hist 6112 Readings in European History since 1715 (NEW)
Hist 6113 Readings in East Asian History (NEW)
Hist 6114 Readings in Latin American History (NEW)
Hist 6115 Readings in African History (NEW)
Hist 6140 Readings in Metropolitan History (NEW)
Hist 6141 Readings in Regional History (NEW)
Hist 6142 Readings in National History (NEW)
Hist 6143 Readings in Transnational History (NEW)
Psych 5001 Neuropsychological Assessment (NEW)
Council approved the course proposals as submitted.

Resolution on pending course proposals.
Last month Bio 4642 and JCE 4811 were placed on hold pending information on prerequisites. Prerequisites for Bio 4642 were listed under the “current bulletin listing” and therefore the course was forwarded to the Senate C & I. After speaking with Dr. Feldman regarding JCE 4811, the requirement “graduate standing” was removed. Since this course will not be taken by graduate students, it did not require Graduate Council review.

IV. Program Change

Council reviewed the recommendation to drop the emphasis area Health Policy from the Master of Public Policy Administration program. The request was approved unanimously.

V. Graduate Faculty Appointment

In September, Council asked Dean Felix to provide some language about graduate faculty and special appointment faculty. Below is the proposed revision to section 2.1 of the Graduate School Policies:

2.1. Graduate Faculty. The Graduate Faculty shall consist of all tenured and tenure-track faculty. Visiting and part-time faculty will not normally be members of the Graduate Faculty. Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis per approval of the Graduate Council. Graduate Faculty may teach graduate level courses, serve on and/or chair master’s thesis and doctoral committees.

All members of the Graduate Faculty may serve as members of comprehensive examination committees, exit project committees, and master's thesis committees. In general, only tenured or tenure-track members of the Graduate Faculty may chair doctoral dissertation committees. Upon recommendation of the unit and approval of the Graduate Dean, a non-regular Graduate Faculty member who brings a particular expertise to committees may chair doctoral dissertation committees.
Professional/Special Appointment Faculty. Upon recommendation by a college, qualified adjunct faculty may be approved by the Graduate Dean to teach graduate courses for a period of up to five years. Each year, the appropriate unit chair or director will submit the vitae of any faculty member assigned to teach a graduate level course who has not previously been approved by the graduate dean during the preceding 5 years. A rationale, including the faculty member’s qualifications to teach at the graduate level, will be included.

A friendly amendment changed the third paragraph, line 5 to read: graduate dean during the preceding 5 years.

Council unanimously approved the changed wording. An announcement will be sent to the Graduate Faculty listserv. If no petition for a full graduate Faculty meeting is received, the new policy will go into effect in 30 days.

VI. Nominations to the Graduate Faculty

Dean Sebastian has requested graduate faculty status for the following:
- Gary Frandsen, Lecturer
- Melodie Rowbotham, Assistant Teaching Professor
- Darlene Stredl, Assistant Teaching Professor

In the case of Gary Frandsen and Melodie Rowbotham, Council moved to request additional information from Dean Sebastian.

In the case of Darlane Stredl, based upon her publications, Council unanimously approved her as a member of the Graduate Faculty.

VII. MAGS Thesis Nomination

Council received two nominations for the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools’ Thesis award.

The history faculty submitted the thesis of Margaret Huth entitled “Witch Frenzy: The Reformation and the Escalation of Witch-Hunting”. The biology faculty submitted the nomination of Matthew Ogburn whose thesis is “Anatomical variation in outgroups of Cacteeae.” Both were exceptional nominations but Council chose to forward Matthew Ogburn’s thesis.

VIII. Graduate Research Fair

The MSC Century rooms have been reserved for the April 14, 2008 Graduate Research Fair. The event will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Council suggested separating the judging into areas, such as social sciences, natural
sciences, education, etc. and having 2 judges per area. The event will be discussed again at Council’s November 16, 2007 meeting.

IX. Other business

November 1 is the deadline for Bridge Fellowships. Council will need to review any applications that are received.

A question arose about the current policy for chairing doctoral and master’s committees. When the doctoral faculty was disbanded a few years ago, the departments are to monitor who is placed on a committee. The Graduate Dean also must approve committee membership.

The meeting ended at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Heckel for
Teresa Guess, Secretary and Vice Chairperson