Minutes/Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Executive Committee Meeting

March 9, 2012

Members present: Joe Singer, John Herron, Dianne Smith, Charles Robinson, Charles Wurrey, Wai-Yim Ching, William Black, Virginia Blanton, Jeff Gorski, Dean Denis Medeiros (Chair) Connie Mahone and Colleen Kelly (SGS administrative support)

Guest: Anthony Shiu (English Department)


I. Meeting called to order at 2:00 p.m., with minutes of the February 10, 2012 meeting approved.

II. Announcements
   - IDSC Community of Scholars and SGS Awards Celebration will be held on Wednesday, April 25th in the New Student Union
   - Annual Evaluations will be going out to students/advisers the first week of April

III. Adjunct Doctoral Faculty Discussion
   Petition submitted from Dr. James Murowchick, Chair of Geosciences, on behalf of Dr. John Fleeger, Emeritus Professor and Adjunct Professor in Geosciences to be granted permission to serve as a member of Trina Weilert’s Interdisciplinary Ph.D. committee. After discussion and review of Dr. Fleeger’s CV, a motion was made by Dr. Robinson and seconded by Dr. Wurrey with the motion passing unanimously. A second request on behalf of two Economics students was presented by Dr. James Sturgeon to add a second adjunct faculty member to supervisory committees. After discussion the request was denied but committee members said they would be willing to review separate petitions in the future but only if submitted with appropriate documentation (CV’s, etc.).

   Dean Medeiros advised the committee that he had discussed the decision of the Graduate Council with various faculty members involved and that there needed to be more clear communication. Dr. Robinson recommended an ad hoc committee be formed to meet and further discuss the issue. Dean Medeiros will convene a meeting of the group in the new future.

IV. Proposal for Humanities Consortium
   Dr. Blanton along with guest Dr. Shiu presented the proposal for the Humanities Consortium providing background information and the rationale. A number of graduate faculty whose departmental homes do not have a primary or co-discipline in the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. program would like to participate more fully in the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. program but are restricted by lack of faculty and students to support a primary discipline resulted in the development of the proposal. The Consortium would provide additional co-disciplines that would complement the interdisciplinary program. Dr. Blanton fielded questions from the group and facilitated further discussion among committee members. There was a motion to accept the proposal (Black/Singer). The motion passed with the addition of two proxies in favor of the Consortium. There was one abstention (Dianne Smith).
V. Other
Invitation issued from Dr. Anthony Shiu to a CV/cover letter workshop sponsored by the Englished Department on April 4th. A request that notice be sent to the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. student listserv.

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.