Minutes/Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Executive Committee Meeting

May 14, 2010

Members present: Lisa Terre, Deborah Smith, John Laity, John Herron, Wai-Yim Ching, Alexander Holsinger, Jeff Gorski, Joe Parisi, Rafia Rasu, Dean Ronald MacQuarrie (Chair), Connie Mahone (administrative support)

Excused Absences: Joe Singer, Deep Medhi, Virginia Blanton, Charles Wurrey

I. Meeting called to order with minutes of the April 9, 2010 meeting approved.

II. Announcements
   No announcements

III. Biomedical Science Proposal
    At last month’s meeting the committee requested additional information from the program presenters. Dr. Papasian provided the requested information which was distributed to the committee for the purpose of review and discussion for the meeting. Further discussion included financial support of students and the need for experienced faculty members who would be available to mentor students. The committee recommended that the Biomedical Science discipline work with other disciplines and academic units to share and coordinate course offerings and to grow the program by focusing on a small number of focus areas.

    A motion was made by Dr. Parisi and seconded by Dr. Holsinger to approve the proposal. The motion was passed unanimously.

IV. Program Evaluation Committee (PEC) Update
    Dr. Smith advised that costs prohibited the hiring of the person recommended for facilitating the student focus group. Dr. Terre suggested contacting the Counseling and Testing Center to find out if they could provide this service. Larry Bunce in IR should also be considered since he will be conducting the faculty focus groups. The names of several students who have volunteered for the focus group have also been collected.

    In order to insure participation from all sub-committees, Dr. Smith suggested that a call go out to those areas that are currently without representation (Administrative and Information Sciences, Physical, Mathematical, Computer and Engineering Sciences). A second meeting needs to be scheduled for the group.

V. Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.