Minutes/Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Executive Committee Meeting

November 9, 2012

Members present: Joe Singer, Wai-Yim Ching, Jeff Gorski, Virginia Blanton, Joe Parisi, Joan Dean, Jered Carr, John Laity, William Black, Rafia Rasu, Dean Denis Medeiros (Chair), Dr. Patricia Hovis-French, Connie Mahone and Colleen Kelly (SGS administrative support)

Guest: Dr. Karen Williams

Excused Absences: Deep Medhi, JeJung Lee, Hari Bhat, Rita Barger, Dianne Smith, Jim Sturgeon

I. Meeting called to order at 2:10 p.m., with minutes of the October 12, 2012 meeting approved.

II. Announcements
   Dean Medeiros presented discussion topic on proposed financial assistance revision that will be discussed with Graduate Council at their next scheduled meeting.

III. Biomedical and Health Informatics New Discipline Proposal
   Dr. Karen Williams was on hand to present the discipline proposal and to answer questions. The discipline if approved will serve only as a co-discipline. For the past three years, the program has operated successfully at the Master’s level. After having been approached by doctoral students as well as the demand from other programs, the department identified a need for the proposed doctoral program. After entertaining questions from the Committee and further discussion a unanimous vote was taken in favor of approving the program.

IV. Doctoral Post Graduation Survey Results
   Dr. Patricia-Hovis-French, presented findings on the level of satisfaction from surveys distributed to doctoral students at the time of their graduation. The Committee requested additional survey results on time to degree and additional information which will be forwarded by Dr. Hovis-French to members.

V. Proposed Plan of Study Revisions
   Dean Medeiros discussed proposed revisions and directions on the plan of study which would include rubric measures that would aid in the assessment of writing and interdisciplinarity as discussed at the October meeting.

VI. Other
   Since commencement falls on the date of the next scheduled meeting a poll will be taken to identify an alternate meeting date for the month of December.

VII. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.