Graduate Council
February 19, 2015

Present: Professors Campo, Cowles, Denry, Kristof-Brown, Martin-Estudillo, Moore, Moorhead, Murry, Xiao; Graduate Students Gavin-Bigsby, Lucas, Winn; Deans Berkowitz, Gardiner, Keller, Wurster; Staff Arbisi-Kelm, Crooks, Jenkins

Absent: Professors Ankenmann, Creekmur, Duff, Quelle; Staff: Teitle

1. The minutes of the January 22, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved.

2. Announcements and updates:
   - The Jakobsen conference will be held Saturday, March 28. 170 abstracts have been received. Thanks to faculty who have served as reviewers. Representative Dave Loebsack has been invited to give the keynote address. More information about the conference may be found here: http://gss.grad.uiowa.edu/jakobsen-conference
   - COGS negotiations have been finalized and is awaiting signature by the Board of Regents and the COGS union.
   - Fellowship applications are down relative to the same timeframe as last year.
   - Members of the Graduate Council are invited to join Dean Keller as he presents the inaugural State of Graduate Education address on Tuesday, March 3, at 5:30 pm in room 240 of Art Building West. A question & answer session will immediately follow. A concluding reception will be held in the Atrium of Art Building West.

3. Senior Associate Dean Wurster presented a proposal for a proposal for a subprogram in Health and Human Physiology entitled Child Life (MS, non-thesis). This is currently a focus area within Leisure Studies. As such, all necessary coursework & faculty are already in place. While council members were supportive of the proposal, they voiced concern regarding the large number of contact and credit hours required for internships. A motion was made to approve the proposal pending additional consideration by the proposers in regards to the timing of the internship and the number of credit hours awarded for the internship. The motion passed unanimously.
   [A revised proposal has been received by the Graduate College Office of Academic Affairs.]

4. Senior Associate Dean Wurster presented a proposal from the Institute for Clinical and Translational Science (ICTS) to close the PhD program in Translational Biomedicine (TBM) effective July 1, 2015. The proposal comes before the Graduate Council with full support of the ICTS advisory board and the Carver College of Medicine. No students have been enrolled in the doctoral program since 2012, with only four graduating during the program’s 14-year history. The MS in TBM will remain in place. A motion was made to approve the proposal and passed unanimously.
5. Dean Keller led a discussion of doctoral program completion trends. While program completion rates have long been one marker of program success, the traditional ‘snapshot’ view includes limitations. Staff of the Graduate College have developed a way to look at 5-year rolling averages. This approach allows observation of completion trends over time. Council members appreciated this new approach and suggested ways in which the trends could be presented. Additional work will be conducted and ways to share the data are to be investigated.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 a.m.