

GPSA Coordinating Committee
Meeting Summary
1 May 2009

Present were Jerry DeWitt, Mike Duffy, Matt Liebman, Charles Sauer, Betty Wells, and Mary Wiedenhoeft.

Agenda items

- 1) Double degree proposals
- 2) Student funding
- 3) Faculty and officer election
- 4) Student professional development grants (PDGs)
- 5) Admissions review

Mike Duffy called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

1) Betty Wells was invited to take the floor to provide an update from the Curriculum Committee regarding a proposal to establish a double degree program with the Department of Community and Regional Planning (CRP): a joint MS / MCRP. Betty reviewed the negotiations and described the current credit scheme. Both CRP and the GPSA made concessions to come to a common agreement. The GPSA Curriculum Committee has approved the proposal in its current form, and it will be returned to CRP for final review and approval.

Betty also mentioned the proposal to establish a GPSA seminar course. The format would allow for variable topics and may be a vehicle to bring new faculty into teaching roles without demanding a heavy time commitment. The Curriculum Committee will pick up this topic in the fall.

Mike reported briefly that he is awaiting input from the College of Business (COB) on their proposal to establish a double degree program with the GPSA: a joint MS / MBA. Follow-up action by the Curriculum Committee will depend on input from the COB.

2) Mike brought to the floor the topic of second-year funding for continuing GPSA students. Two students are presently experiencing a funding crisis in their second year of study. There is presently no program policy that addresses second-year support. The committee discussed pros and cons and resolved to use the uncommitted CALS RA allocation for FY10 to fund the two individuals in question. Each will receive a 1/4-time RA for FY10. Their progress will be reviewed at the end of the F09 term.

3) Mike provided an update on chair candidates: none have stepped forward so far. He will continue to solicit faculty. Given time constraints, it was resolved to proceed with the membership election of Tom Kaspar on a separate ballot and follow up with an officer election as soon as possible. Charles will send an electronic ballot.

- 4) The remaining balance in the PDG budget line for FY09 was reviewed. It was resolved to make two more grants to individuals and use the balance to support the SAEA Conference.
- 5) Charles provided a brief admission update.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.