

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO  
SENATE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE**

The Senate Graduate and Professional Committee met on Thursday, December 15, 2011, Simpson Hall, Simpson Room.

**Members Present:** \*Robben Baca, Corbin Casarez (alternate for Katie Richardson), Michele Chwastiak \*John Cornish, Joanna Cosbey, Cassiano de Oliveira, \*Gary Harrison, Steven Homer, Dena Kinney, Andrea Polli, and Linney Wix (chair)

**Members Excused:** Jim Boone, Janie Chermak, Jim Feng (alternate for Matthew Borrego), Astrid Kodric-Brown, Gao Liu, and Mindy Tinkle

**Members Absent:** \*Alex Gonzalez and \*Greg Heileman

(\* Indicates non-voting member)

**Approval of Agenda:**

Joanna Cosbey moved approval of the December 15, 2011 agenda. Michele Chwastiak seconded the motion; the agenda was approved.

**Minutes:**

Steven Homer moved approval of the December 1, 2011 minutes. Corbin Casarez seconded the motion; the minutes were approved with minor edit.

**Curriculum/New Programs:**

Chwastiak presented curriculum forms for the Committee's consideration. The following forms were approved by the SGPC:

- Forms B—
  - EDUC 554 – Peace Education
  - NURS 571 – Geriatric and End of Life Concepts for Advanced Nursing Practice
- Forms C—
  - Nanoscience & Microsystems, MS – Create concentration in Professional Science
  - Nursing, PhD – Revise requirements for “BSN Entry to the PhD Program” to expand the details of requirements in the University Catalog.
  - Nursing, PhD – Revise requirements for “MSN En Route to the PhD Program” to expand the details of requirements in the University Catalog.
  - Nursing, MSN – Revise requirements for Acute Care Nurse Practitioner concentration to reflect new course NURS 571.

**Honorary Degree Sub-committee:**

Dena Kinney reminded the committee that the discussion and selection of the recipients for Honorary Degrees is confidential. She presented a summary of each of the selected three nominees to the committee.

The committee discussed the Honorary Degree Policy and the process for selecting the candidates.

Due to a conflict of interest, Casarez moved approval of two of the nominees. Cassiano de Oliveira seconded the motion; approval of the nominees was unanimous.

**Reports:****GPSA:**

Casarez reported that the GPSA Council and President Richardson issued a joint resolution in support of the permanent removal of the tuition credit. Council has approved the Lobby Committee's agenda for the New Mexico legislative session, focusing on the funding formula, a graduate tax incentive, and GRD funding. GPSA participated at a brainstorming session held by Faculty Senate Government Relations and in the Presidential Search Committee. The Student Support and Advocacy Committee helped coordinate Student Forums with the candidates, a pool which Council members believe to be excellent. GPSA held a volunteer appreciation/holiday party, a leadership tea, and yoga de-stress events.

In light of the Presidential Search meetings and a weekend of thinking about higher education across the nation, President Richardson has been thinking about:

- What does P-20 education mean, how should K-12, CNM, UNM, etc., guide New Mexicans through the entire education pipeline? Educational institutions need to think about how they are all members of the same relay team handing off the baton.
- What does it mean to be a public university with declining public funding?
- How can UNM make the case that jobs are created and the economy stimulated by the inherent values of basic research and a liberal arts education? It has been said that only education that turns instantaneously into IP or technology in the community is valued.
- President Richardson believes that the NM legislature will only fund UNM as a very high research institution distinct from two year and comprehensive colleges ONCE UNM reliably provides access to, educates, and graduates New Mexicans. As it stands, the legislative skepticism toward UNM continues in light of abysmal graduation rates.

**OGS:**

Dean Harrison reported that the Graduate Resource Center and Graduate Student Funding Initiative held its joint end of the semester celebration. They jointly awarded 45 GSFI certificates (one student received all four certificates); certificates are awarded for attending a number of workshops.

The effort to integrate the Teaching Assistant Resource Center (TARC) with the Office of Support for Effective Teaching (OSET) is moving forward. The two will combine to become the Collaborative Center for Effective Teaching and Learning (CCETL) and will be located in the basement of Mesa Vista Hall.

**SGPC:**

Chair Wix thanked the committee members for their service throughout the term and upcoming term. Harrison thanked Wix for chairing this committee.

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 a.m.