Minutes of CGSR Meeting #1 on 08/29/2017

The Committee on Graduate Studies and Research (CGSR) held its 1st meeting during AY 2017-18 on August 29th (Thursday) in Gateway I Conference Room, 3101

Present: Terri Camesano (Dean of Graduate Studies), Greg Fischer (ME), Reeta Rao (BBT), Karen Troy (BME), Bogdan Vernescu (Vice Provost for Research), Adrienne Weishaar (Graduate Student, CEE), Amy Zeng (FBS)

Guests: Sarah Miles (Registrar), Kristin McAdams (Academic Program), Michael McGrade (Director of Graduate Admission)

Absent: Suzanne Scarlata (CBC)

Professor K. Troy called the meeting to order at noon.

1. Administration: The secretaries for this academic year are selected: A-term: M. Timko; B-term: A. Weishaar; C-term: A. Zeng; D-term: R. Rao

2. VP for Research B. Vernescu handed out a draft WPI Research Misconduct Policy, explained the background and need for such a policy, and answered a few immediate questions from the Committee members. Chair K. Troy encouraged everyone to read the draft and then send comments to her prior to the Committee’s next meeting (11:00am – noon on Sept. 7th). The Policy will ultimately be approved by the Board of Trustees.

3. Old Business: The leftover items from last academic year were briefly reviewed. To move these motions forward quickly, Chair K. Troy divided the work as follows:
   a. Graduate Internship Policy: K. Troy will review it
   b. Continuing Student Status: G. Fischer and S. Miles will go over it
   c. TA/RA Policy: G. Fischer will review it
   d. Academic Standards for Graduate Students: This will require more discussions at upcoming meetings.

4. New Business: “Research Corner” – Chair K. Troy would like to devote 15 minutes at each meeting to discussions of open research issues. The following three items came out:
   a. Dean T. Camesano announced that for the coming spring, a professional Responsible Conduct for Research course will be offered to all graduate students. Discussions centered on whether the course should be mandatory or not, credited or not, and delivered on line and/or on site.
   b. TA evaluation supported by Morgan Teaching Center has been implemented by a few departments. The survey is simpler than regular teaching evaluation form and different departments are using different platforms (e.g., Qualtrics, Canvas) to implement the questionnaire.
   c. Policy for graduate students teaching regular classes. Dean T. Camesano will start putting a basic framework and some basic parameters for such a policy and then present it to the Committee for further expansion.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Zeng, Foisie Business School