Minutes of CGSR Meeting #16 on 01/27/2016

The Committee on Graduate Studies and Research (CGSR) held its 2nd meeting in C-term 2016 on January 27, 2016 (Wednesday) in Higgins Labs, Room 102.

- Present: M. Demetriou (Chair), A. Zeng (Secretary), S. Hudson (GS), C. Larsen, B. Vernescu (Vice Provost for Research), A. Rangwala, K. Troy.

- Absent: J. Arguello, S. Flavin (ex-officio).

- Guests: T. Camesano (Dean of Graduate Studies), G. Gaudette (COG Chair)

Professor Demetriou called the meeting to order at 11:10 AM (a few minutes delay due to technical problems)

1. The minutes of the meeting on 01/20/16 were approved without any revision.

2. Two motions from the M.S. in Robotics Engineering Program were reviewed and discussed: One motion is to expand the allowable electives to include graduate courses in Science, Engineering, and Business, and the other is to add ETR 593 – Technology Commercialization: Theory, Strategy and Practice to the current course list in the program’s Engineering Context requirement. Both motions were approved unanimously and will be included in the Consent Agenda for the upcoming Faculty meeting.

3. Professor Demetriou presented a teaching appointment letter sent by CPE for offering an on-line section to an existing graduate course offered on campus. Specific questions were discussed: (1) All teaching appointments (professional title, course, format, compensation, etc.) should be made by the Provost; (2) Should CPE have access to confidential information such as student evaluations? (3) Should CPE be allowed to have future access to instructors’ on-line lecture materials? (4) How is CPE admitting new students and administering the existing students? Since Dean, S. Flavin, was absent from today’s meeting, the Committee decided to revisit the issue next time.

4. Much discussion was devoted to the membership composition of CGSR; in particular, whether a CPE representative should be a voting member on CGSR. Different points of view were shared. Professor Gaudette presented COG’s concern about adding additional faculty members, because it has been difficult to recruit faculty, especially dedicated faculty members, to serve on the university-level committees. VPR Vernescu stressed the need for a CPE member to be on CGSR as CPE has a unique set of operational procedures. Other thoughts on the pros and cons of having CPE representative on the committee were also explored. Since this issue touches upon multiple units on campus, the Committee decided to postpone the discussion when Provost Bursten, COG Chair G. Gaudette, and Dean S. Flavin are all able to join the CGSR meeting in the near future.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Zeng, CGSR secretary (C16)