

**Winthrop University Graduate Faculty Assembly**

Minutes, November 22, 2013

(Following the Faculty Conference) Dina's Place, DiGiorgio Student Center

- I. Call to Order
- II. Welcoming Remarks Sue Lyman,  
GFA Chair

Quorum = 25

Minutes of Graduate Faculty Assembly from October 4, 2013 were unanimously approved

- III. Report from Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Debra Boyd

Dean Boyd stated appreciation for those who came back to the GFA noting the late hour and referring the GFA to her comments in the Faculty Conference.

- IV. Report from the Graduate Council Jennifer Jordan

Jennifer reported that graduate council is working on proposals to change the GFA meetings to a common time for the next academic year so they do not feel like an afterthought.

She also noted that she Sue Lyman and John Bird met after the question asked by Dwight about voting procedures at the last meeting. She then gave the floor back to Sue to explain what she found in the bylaws.

Sue Lyman reported that the current bylaws state that course action do not need to be voted on by GFA but that GFA has the right to modify or reverse decisions of Graduate Council. Currently no course actions are presented to the GFA. She proposed that GFA membership should be made aware of course actions before they are approved in the CAS by the GFA chair. Likewise program actions passed by Graduate Council but not needing action of GFA will be included in the agenda for next GFA meeting and presented for information at the meeting. Program actions identified in the Bylaws as needing GFA approval will be included in the agenda and presented for action. There was some discussion about the use of an electronic voting process.

- VI. Report from the Dean of the Graduate School Jack DeRochi

Jack spoke of the current enrollment numbers

He supported the idea of having less meetings and finding a common time to gain more interest in the GFA.

He reported on the Enhancing Student Financial Education grant stating that 1st Survey of degree-seeking students had a 47% participation rate, they plan on creating a Web page and have plans for the spring semester to do surveys and professional seminars on Budgeting and Cash Flow, Managing Debt, Taxes and Insurance, Investing in your Future. He encourages everyone to get there students active in these seminars.

He spoke on the new graduate assistantship model, they made the changes suggested and applications are due December 15.

He announced upcoming events:

“Celebration Reception” —December 10, 6:00 in Richardson Ballroom

Graduate School Information Session December 17, 2:00 in Student Center

Graduate School Open House on January 30, Tuttle Dining Room - Sheri Lynch will speak

VII. Unfinished Business-none

VIII. New Business-none

IX. Announcements -none

X. Adjournment