To: The Senate

From: The Graduate Council

Date: 3/13/13

Re: Graduate Council Minutes – February 2013

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Ex-Officio Members Present: Rita Baumann, Cristina Sanchez, Beverly Arata, Sabrina Cortell, and Margarita Pina-Harlow.

1. Minutes: The minutes for the January 10, 2013, meeting were unanimously approved.

2. Report of the Dean (Dean Welter)

Dean Welter informed the GC that the doctoral program in IDS was approved by Senate, commenting that the outcome speaks to the well-crafted and economically feasible proposal. Additionally, he informed the GC that this year, there may be a few more non-resident tuition waivers than last year.

Regarding resident enrollment caps, Dean Welter argued for a balance between growing our programs and excelling, and not being fined by over-admitting. The target for graduate programs has been 20% of the total student population, and we are currently at 14%. There is room for a discussion as to how we want to grow. Dr. Prislin reminded the group that the resident caps apply only to resident students – programs can admit as many non-residents/international students as they can handle. Beverly Arata from Enrollment Services added that the formulae for the Fall 2013 caps take into consideration that some students will graduate at the end of fall and the spring enrollment will be lower.

Since SDSU has a HSI status, graduate programs should try to take advantage of this status and push for funding and grants. There are HSI specific grants. If anyone is interested, please let GRA know.

Dr. Welter encouraged the Council members to bring to the agenda any issues that they may be emerging in their colleges. He encouraged the Council to be a proactive group with a hope of confronting issues as they arise and before they turn into problems. Dr. Glembotski added that the members of the Council are representatives of each college and should send information in both directions – from the college to the Council and from the Council to the college. Dr. Welter added that one of the biggest challenges is dissemination of information so that it reaches all members of the graduate community in a timely manner.

3. Committee Reports - None
4. New Business

- Update on Graduate Admissions (Dr. Prislin)

Dr. Prislin presented a PowerPoint presentation (see Appendix) to demonstrate the current number of graduate applications. When comparing totals, it is important to remember that last year had a deadline of February 1st, whereas this year’s deadline is March 1st. Although there is a slight decrease in the overall number of applications thus far, the data indicate that there is actually an increase of applications when compared to two and a half weeks prior to the deadline last year. Therefore, the apparent decrease may disappear by the deadline. The good news is that there is an increase in international applications, the increase attributed primarily to the move to in-house transcript verification.

Resident application caps will be sent out to programs shortly. This year, there will be no opportunity to go over the target since, once the target is met, all additional admits must be approved by Dean Welter. When making target predictions, the Deans were asked for their input and at that time some programs requested additional growth, while others requested no growth at all.

- eRDR (Beverly Arata)

Enrollment Services and GRA have been working closely to develop the new electronic applications system, known as eRDR. Ten programs have been chosen to test it and their feedback will be requested. Enrollment Services will assign each Graduate Advisor privileges on the system so that each can view a student’s information. They are also building in a tool that will monitor the total number of RDs, and thereby limit the number of admissions. Dr. Prislin reminded the group that this limitation applies to California residents only. Ms. Arata continued that when a student is admitted conditionally, the conditions are keyed in by the Graduate Advisor into the milestones pages. This information will transfer into the students WebPortal automatically. Ms. Cortell reminded the group that requests for the conditional admits go directly to Dr. Balsdon for approval/denial. If approved, Dr. Balsdon will be able to type in the specific conditions that a conditionally admitted student must meet in order to remain in a program. There is no ticker in the system to monitor the number of conditional admits yet. Dr. Prislin added that the number of conditional admits remains at 10% per college and the distribution of that 10% is up to the college itself. Ms. Arata finished by adding that as Enrollment Services admits a student, the student will drop off the RDR list.

- NRTW Criteria (Dr. Welter)

This year there will be a few more NRTWs available than last year, but the number is still tight. Last year, GRA, working with the graduate Council, adjusted the NRTW distribution so as to allow for a better balance between master’s and PhD programs. The current criteria are as follows:

1. Continuing international non-residents who were recruited with a NRTW (within specified limits).
2. New doctoral and new MFA students.
3. Merit scholarship recipients (e.g., Fulbright).
4. Students from funded grants in which non-resident tuition waiver was included as cost-sharing
   (with notification and approval by GRA prior to grant submission).
5. Other new domestic and international non-resident students.

In response to the question about a possible revision of these criteria for the 2013-14 academic year, Dr. Beck mentioned that he would like to see the Council consider the number of waivers generated by a program. Dr. Prislin responded that although this has not been considered at a program level, at a college level it does work out that the college that generates the most waivers by enrolling the most tuition-paying non-resident students also receives the most waivers. She added that it is good to discuss how we can increase the overall number of tuition-paying non-resident students since this will, in turn, increase the number of NRTWs available.

**Vote:** The Council voted to keep the current criteria in place for the 2013-14 academic year, authorizing GRA to adjust them as necessary to remain with the number of NRTWs available for AY 2013/14.

5. **Old Business - None**

**Adjournment 3:20pm**
Graduate Applications:
Feb 7 2013 vs. Feb 3 2012

Graduate Applications to the Priority Cycle Programs

[Bar charts showing data for different categories and years]
Graduate Applications Received ~ 2.5 Weeks Before Deadline

2/7/2013
1/14/2012

Resident
OoS
International
Total