The Graduate Council meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Dr. Dorris Robinson-Gardner. The following persons were present:

Dr. Jean-Claude Assad, (At Large)
Dr. Mark Bernhardt, Department of History
Dr. Juette Bingham, College of Education
Dr. Walter Brown, EPh.D. Program
Dr. Thomas Calhoun, Division of Academic and Student Affairs
Dr. Daning Chen, Department of Mathematics
Dr. Nicholas Hill, Doctoral Program in Business Administration
Ms. Sarah Foote, Graduate School
Dr. Johnny Gilleylen, Department of Public Policy and Administration
Dr. Rickey Hill, Department of Political Science
Dr. Mukesh Kumar, Urban and Regional Planning
Dr. Lennie Little, College of Education Center for Teaching Quality
Dr. Sophia Leggette, School of Public Health
Ms. Monica Wall-Jones, ADA
Dr. Jaegoo Lee, Department of Social Work
Dr. Mukesh Kumar, Department of Urban and Regional Planning
Dr. Regina McMurtery, Department of Counseling
Dr. Benjamin Ngwudike, Department of Educational Leadership
Dr. Candis Pizzatta, Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages
Dr. Dion Porter, Department of Counseling
Dr. Mohammad Shahbazi, (At Large)
Dr. Ronald Walker, Department of Educational Leadership
Dr. Bryman Williams, Department of Clinical Psychology
Dr. Thea Williams-Black, Department of Elementary and Early Childhood
Ms. Regina Sutton, Graduate School, Recorder

**Financial Aid Concerns**

Ms. Betty J. Moncure, Financial Aid Director, addressed student financial aid concerns, primarily in connection with Title IV Federal Student Financial Aid Programs under the auspices of the Department of Education (DE). She noted DE’s monitoring of the heavy debt load that some students are incurring and the viability of repaying such loans. Ms. Moncure noted the following regarding Title IV loans:

1. Graduate students must be enrolled in degree seeking programs to receive financial aid.
2. The student must demonstrate satisfactorily academic progress in 67% of courses in which he/she is enrolled in order to continue to receive financial aid.
3. The student must be enrolled at least half time (6+ hours) to continue to receive financial aid.
4. Repeat hours are counted as attempted hours. Passed hours may only be repeated once for Title IV assistance.
5. Faculty must submit enrollment rosters to the Registrar’s office so that Title IV funds can be issued.
6. Student longevity at JSU should be monitored by the academic side. It was noted that some graduate students have an excessive amount of credit hours.
7. Plus loans are available to graduate students who do not have an adverse credit history.
8. Additional information related to on-line program financial aid disbursement is available in Ms. Moncure’s office.
9. Twelve items in which the student must be compliant is available from Ms. Moncure’s office.

Disability Services and ADA Compliance Office Overview

Ms. Monica Wall-Jones, Director, presented an overview of the Disability Services and ADA Compliance Office. Their primary focus is to provide reasonable accommodations to students and employees who qualify under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). In response to questions, she stated the following:

1. The ADA office accommodates approximately 412 students at Jackson State University.
2. Most disabilities are of a medical or psychiatric nature.
3. Documentation of a disability is usually in a letter from a qualified professional that states that the student/employee has a disability and explains what accommodations are needed to participate.
4. Notetakers must provide a letter with an electronic stamp.
5. Notetakers or interpreters cannot be added in the middle of a semester.
6. Verbal dissertation information can be obtained from Ms. Wall-Jones.

Ten Year Review of Graduate Faculty

A five or ten year graduate faculty review process is being planned. Faculty interested in serving on the Graduate Faculty Status Committee should contact Dr. Jeton McClinton or Dr. Jean-Claude Assad.

Reports from Standing Committees

Graduate Curriculum Committee (GCC)

Dr. Brown stated that there are no current recommendations. Dr. Gardner said that two proposals have been received in the Graduate School office for future consideration.
**Graduate Faculty Status Committee (GFSC)**

Dr. Assad presented the Graduate Faculty Status Committee (GFSC) report. (See Attachment 1.) Two applications were reviewed for graduate faculty status. They both were approved for assistant graduate faculty status.

A motion was presented, seconded and unanimously approved that the GFSC recommendations be accepted.

Dr. Assad also stated that a practitioner category for graduate faculty status is under consideration. He emphasized that faculty who are not on tenure track can only be considered for adjunct faculty status. Credentials should be placed on the application form. Also, chairs and deans should carefully review applications for completion and qualifications.

Drs. Gilleylen and Williams expressed concern that they had not been informed of the status of graduate faculty applications submitted previously. Dr. Assad said that it is the responsibility of the Graduate School Dean to inform departments of decisions made on graduate faculty applications.

**Graduate Admissions Committee**

Dr. Gardner reported that 125 graduate transmittal forms have been sent to the departments for Spring 2016 consideration. Students should be notified of admissions decisions as soon as possible.

**December 2015 Graduate Clearance and Tentative Graduates**

- The graduation clearance deadline has been extended to November 10, 2015 by 5:00 p.m.
- One hundred and ninety (190) graduate students are anticipated to graduate for Summer and Fall 2015.

**Announcements**

- Graduate English Competency Examination (GECE) and Graduate Area Comprehensive Examination (GACE) results must be submitted to the Graduate School as soon as possible.
- The 2015-2017 Graduate Catalogue is on the Graduate School website. Hard copies of the catalogue should be available in December.
- Department and student items of achievement should be sent to the Graduate School for placement on the website.
- The Presidents’ Office should be informed of upcoming conferences.
Reports of Graduate Program Directors and Department Representatives

Business Ph.D. Program – Dr. Nicholas Hill

- A new class is anticipated for Fall 2016.
- Steven Day, a graduate student, won second place for Best Research Paper at a recent Southern Management Association Conference.

Political Science – Dr. Rickey Hill

- The Department is responding to program review recommendations.
- A graduate student who is anticipated to graduate in May has applied to two Ph.D. programs.

Public Health and IRB Chair - Dr. Sophia Leggett

- Students who conduct research using humans, animals and stem cells must have IRB approval before data collection. Data collected prior to IRB approval cannot be used.
- Dr. Calhoun noted that the integrity of data is suspect when there is a short-turn around of approval, collection and presentation of data.

History – Dr. Mark Bernhardt

- An on-line degree program in History is being developed.
- A certificate in Public History is being developed.

Public Health – Dr. Mohammad Shahbazi

- Students attended a national public health conference in Chicago.
- A Certificate in Public Health Program is awaiting approval for implementation.
- A Weekend Accelerated Program in Public Health has been developed and is awaiting approval for implementation.
- MOUs with Iran and India to establish MPH programs have been finalized and is awaiting administrative approval.

Social Work – Dr. Jaegoo Lee

- Social Work faculty recently attended a professional development meeting.
Counseling – Dr. Regina McMurry

- The Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program has received notification of reaccreditation from the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).
- Several students received scholarships at a recent state-wide conference.

Counseling – Dr. Dion Porter

- The Department has been awarded a $1 million grant from the Department of Education to assist in educating students to serve Mississippi’s special needs population.

Elementary and Early Childhood Education - Dr. Thea-Williams Black

- The Department is working to enhance the doctoral students’ teaching experience.

College of Education Center for Teaching Quality – Dr. Lennie Little

- Four students took the Graduate Area Comprehensive Examination this semester.

College of Education and Commencement Committee Member - Dr. Juette Bingham

- Undergraduate commencement exercises will be held on Friday, December 11, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.
- Graduate commencement exercises will be held on Friday, December 11, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.
- Receptions will be held by each college after the undergraduate commencement; the graduate reception will be held at 4:00 p.m. prior to the graduate commencement.
- Graduate commencement practice will be held on Thursday, December 10, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.
- Undergraduate commencement practice will be held on Thursday, December 10, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.
- The graduate commencement speaker will be Wendy Scott, Dean of the Mississippi School of Law.
- The undergraduate commencement speaker will be Kevin Lyles of Def Jam Records.
- Faculty and student marshals should be identified.
- The Credit for Prior Learning Task Force will host a speaker from the American Council on Education who is an expert on credit for prior learning practices on December 13, 2015.
- The College of Education will have an NCATE visit on November 15-17, 2015.
Urban and Regional Planning – Dr. Mukesh Kumar

- The Department is planning for a program review during the Spring Semester 2016.

Educational Leadership – Dr. Benjamin Ngwudike

- An increase in enrollment is anticipated.
- SafeAssign plagiarism software is available for students and faculty.

Psychology - Dr. Bryman Williams

- The Department is in the midst of the American Psychological Association (APA) reaccreditation process.
- Five of five students passed the GACE

EPh.D. Program – Dr. Walter Brown

- Ten students will graduate this semester.
- A student will present at the American Educational Research Association Meeting in April 2016.

Public Policy and Administration – Dr. Johnny Gilleylen

- An American Society of Public Administrators Conference will be held in Jackson during the month of February, 2016.

Political Science – Dr. Rickey Hill

- A National Conference of Black Political Scientists will be held in Jackson on March 3, 2016.

MAT Program – Dr. Dennis Williams

- All MAT Students are offered the opportunity to apply as candidates to Thurgood Marshall Teacher Quality & Retention Program-TQRP-5 students a year.
- A Mississippi Common Core State Standard Workshop was held on October 31, 2015.
Graduate Faculty Status Committee
Minutes/Report
November 10, 2015

The Graduate Faculty Status Committee met on Monday, November 9, 2015, in the Conference Room of the department of Economics, Finance and General Business, COB – Room 411. Members present included Jean-Claude Assad, Mohammad Shabazzi, and Ibrahim Farah. Also attending was Dr. Dorris Robinson-Gardner, Dean of Graduate Studies. The committee reviewed the applications of the candidates listed below and hereby submits the following applicants for consideration and approval of the Council.

Review of Applications and Recommendations

<table>
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<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Comment(s)</th>
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<td>1</td>
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Respectfully submitted by

Jean-Claude Assad
Associate Professor of Economics
Department of BFGB, College of Business