Graduate Professional Council Agenda
General Assembly Meeting
February 2, 2010

I.  Call to Order

II.  Adoption of Minutes

III.  Adoption of Agenda

IV. Action Items

1.   **Presentation** – Dean Mills, Mizzou Strategic Planning – 25 mins
    a. About a dozen faculty and staff that have put together a road map for MU’s future. All old strategic plans sound a lot alike, promise good things. This is a new approach with concrete realities for the situation we’re in and our strengths. 3 main parts- strengthen programs that help people in Missouri, Mizzou advantage- five initiatives the campus will invest in certain resources to build strength across all disciplines, support the best faculty and infrastructure for the campus.
    b. Will take all comments back to SPRAC which is in charge of it.
    c. Matt M (Physics) For all new policies created on campus, is it necessary to cross reference the strategic plan and satisfy one of their goals? The simple answer is no. These are guidelines that help admin set priorities. Not a policy or legislation. The usual fate of strategic plans is that they sit on the shelf and non one pays attention to them. It’s hoped this won’t be like that
    d. Matt M- In the first goal, do you see a place for the humanity of research while students are on campus? They address humanity in the 2nd goal, but not in the humanity of research. Ethical issues.
    e. Nick-MBA- Go over 5 initiatives in part 2?
    f. Food for the future- CAFNR, BioSci, Life Sci and elsewhere, also include arts and humanities, food and its impact on culture and how peoples live, etc.
    g. Media for the Future- Communications, education, journalism, computer science- develop new business models and tech to deliver media
    h. Energy for the Future-Develop new pharmaceuticals, sustainability,
etc.
i. One Health- Reflecting strengths in vet med, life sci, med school, etc. Campus particularly strong in this area, research on animal health and bringing that to human health
j. Disruptive and transformation tech- how new tech change everything else.
k. Sarah Symonds- How do you see grad and prof students implementing this plan into action- a lot of research, working with professors, more certificate programs, bringing internationally known speakers in
l. CFrancis- ABGPS- Who bears the cost of this plan? If a grad student comes in and doesn’t have a home dept, who will fund that student?
m. All of this will be new funding in the 5 initiatives, grad students would still belong to a dept, they would just be interdisciplinary.

2. **Presentation** – Prof. Lee Wilkins, Graduate Dean Search
   – 10 mins
   Tabled until she arrives.
   Campus is in the process of hiring grad dean and vice provost for advanced studies. Dr. Justice is an interim dean. 4 visitors coming to campus, 2 are internal, 2 external. Everything about them posted on Grad School website. As part of the interviews, there is a slot for grad students and Sarah and Angela have been invaluable to help in this. Please find time to come and meet them and talk about concerns. Really hope the conversations are you talking and them listening. There will be a feedback mech to give us impressions of candidate. You don’t have to come to all four, but come to as many as you can. In no order of preference.

Cfrancis- we have two hard scientists, what is Dr. Bertoli doing?
Communication and mass media.

V. Old Business

1. **Tuition Waiver Resolution** – President Sarah Symonds - 10 mins
   a. At the Dec meeting, we presented resolution that went to some hard working people over break (0910-01). No changes to tuition waiver years and will go back to faculty to decide on something else they can change instead. Are there motions to accept this resolution?
   b. C Francis- ABGPS- Any relationship to the time it took to graduate and the amt of tuition waivered that they were proposing? No. Part of PhD Completion project, reduce # semesters to get people to grad sooner.
   c. David Heise- Comp Eng- This is still in the tuition waiver task force level? Yes, if voted on, will go back to them with our suggestions. David Heise- we accept this resolution,
   d. Matt Mower- point of info- interrupt motion to make small edit.
      Make motion to amend to semicolon and to period.
   e. David Heise- motion to accept with change
   f. Approved.

2. **Health Insurance Update** – Steven McAfee – 5 mins
On Jan 26th, met with Ned Oldmyer, 3rd party consultant for health insurance. Don't expect any big changes next year in health insurance, the prescription plan will have an option to purchase 3mos of prescriptions for the cost of 2 copays. Rest of plan stay the same. Can be revisited at the end of 2010. Cost will go up slightly. Price that you see without insurance waiver is pretty shocking. Sarah advocated for things that would increase the cost of the plan. Will go up by cost of inflation, ~$2400 next year. If you have any problems let Sarah know. Did price this plan out to multiple agencies, and appears that Aetna is the most competitive.

Sarah Symonds- Dr. Scroggs wanted opinion, but felt like both of our voices were muted by the money and the faculty and adm. Dr. Scroggs and Justice are meeting to talk about health insurance to incorporate grad and prof into the faculty insurance plan bc we have different needs than undergrads.

Nick-MBA- if this consultant tells us that this is the most competitive, why not comparable to others in Big 12. We don’t have a hard waiver. That would have dropped price of plan by about $333. We have different deductible caps, we have $100, if we raised it to $250, would have dropped cost by $80. They showed us the numbers they received, judging from this, Aetna is doing best.

Sarah- Texas AM is on faculty plan.
Sarah- English- what is hard waiver? Every student must prove they have health insurance. You have to show they will cover you.

Evan Med School- Med students are required to show that they have proof of insurance? Do you know how that idea came up? Because you have an assumed risk that not every program has. I think it is a cost issue? Borrowing up to their cost of attendance to pay the bills and an extra $2400 will be too much.

Lei- Health At-Large- Anything that this change will affect international students? We have different plan. Will go up 8.5% cost but nothing will change.

David H- Proposal by Dr. Justice sounds interesting and would encourage us to look at this.

VI. New Business

1. **Rollins Society Info** – Alaine Arnott – 10 mins
   a. Rollinsociety.missouri.edu, sent out 140 letters to admins on mizzou campus. You know grad and prof students better than anyone. Need 7 individuals that excel beyond academia. Take rollins to next level. Application is a PDF, email to us and attention to Lauren Zima. You don’t nominate yourself, you find someone to nominate you and then 3 letters of recommendation. You don’t need current Rollins member. Grad Prof student on this campus in good standing. Look at members inducted last year. Learn about Tap Day on the website. What do you guys want to see out of this.
b. Fill out applications about the person and turn it in
c. Jade Arocha- 3 letters from? Mix of faculty, community members, etc.
d. Matt M- what benefits? Honor Society and community service, stay as a network, scholarship opportunities, etc.
e. Sarah Z- honor society for GPC? No any grad/prof students..
f. Willing to change website or application

2. General Funding Request
   A. The Body Project - 8 mins
      Sarah Zurhellen from the English dept, rep body project. Call for papers, builds interdisciplinary collab relationships among MU students. Provide opportunity to showcase research.
      Evan Med School- Why is it specifically catering that we are funding? My one concern with the budget is that catering is the highest. More honorariums, less food. In previous years, when people have requested funding, need to let you know specific thing that we are asking for. Catering is always the right amount.
      CFrancis- Benefit is gave the grad students the chance to attend real conference. Point of catering is to keep their attention. Session during lunch, wanted to keep people around. Can stay and eat while listening to talk. Have to provide lunch to about 100 people.
      Marcus Sauer- committee recommended $500, focuses on grad students.
      Milbre B. Theater- I have attended this conference, very valuable opportunity to interact with people on this campus in different fields and to be fed while listening. Very positive experience.
      Accepted for the full $500.

   B. Computer Science Graduate Student Council – 8 mins
      Poster competition held in computer sci dept, so every grad student can participate this year. Any student submit their research, and the jury will grade the posters and award the top 3 posters.
      Meet other grad students and learn from them how to write research. 3 hours long.
      Matt M- wanted to advertise this, no cost for funding through MU info or mass email. Computer Sci forward email to all grad students.
      Marcus S- The committee recommended their food costs, $128.32. Plan to invite all grad students
      Jennifer Pol Sci- concern this will still be limited esp with advertizing.
      CFrancis- I’m concerned about getting the word out. Not concerned if people don’t care about it.
      Sarah Symonds- send email to grad school to email everyone.
      CFrancis- fund them with a stipulation to broaden the email.
      David H- concern that it doesn’t apply to other disciplines, I participate in a lot of things without an engineering category. I don’t recall seeing this advertized in Eng West. Would like to see proper effort in advertizing.
Kristofferson- did receive emails last year, good idea to invite
more people.
Great idea to try to expand it, we could send the email to our
grad students in the dept.
Motion to fund for $128.32. Kristofferson, motion to fund full
amt. Passed.

VII. Officer Reports
Jose-
Emily- The senate passed the bill over break, so the American college health
assoc has gone through the bill and there is language that recog
university’s role in student healthcare, may not be able to get a group rate
if the bill passes. At this rate, we don’t know if healthcare will pass.
Senate make amendment to add more mental health services for university.
Tax season coming up and the university is offering free tax assistance for US
citizens and non-residents.
Jeff- literally today Jay Nixon announced that he wants to pass bill to let govt go
into bank acct and take delinquent taxes... State of the State Address-
Missouri is going to lead the way out of the recession.  Leg event is coming
up, honor legislators that contribute to grad/prof education. THE tailgate
task force met at the beginning of the semester and talked about new
ideas and currently we are looking at the Cornell Meter Lot as a no vehicle
tailgating lot, renting out stalls to organizations and having no cars to
control alcohol consumption.
Marcus- Funding rules, no bylaws governing what we give funding by.
Institutional wisdom to decide what we fund. Fund small groups up to
certain amt to help them with their grad student careers. Take to finance
committee.  Party at Déjà vu last semester, on March 19th.
Travel awards due March 19th also. Travel must be this semester.
Jacob- Spring events up on website, feb 13th watch party at Bengals, 20th,
mizzou after dark mardi gras celebration, all free for you and guest, March
Déjà vu, April 16th possible bowling night. May 17th, end of year party at
Bengals. RCAF- March 13th, need volunteers, deadline to apply is 17th.
Send 250 word abstract to RCAF2010@gmail.com
Lauren- Gold Chalk, honor faculty to be recognized at ceremony. Nominate
someone
Matt M- DO purple chalk awards still exist? For grad students?
Need lots of applicants.. vote on fac member from dept to nominate. Reestablish
in spirit to honor those that help us. Apps due Mar 12th.
Sarah- 3 sets of basketball tickets, tuition waiver thing passed, update at March
meeting, Family friendly task force, reexamine policies to make campus
more family friendly. On behalf of MSA/GPC dept of special events,
audition for Mizzou Idol. If interested, send sarah email or find on
facebook.
Matt M- Feb 20-21 auditions.

ABGPS- good fall, fundraising at nephews, family bldg went well. Good meetings.
Planning our april scholarship banquet, will be asking for money
GSA- Grad fac senate is considering proposal to change grading system to +/- system. Annual interview docs Thurs Mar 11
MizFits-
MUCFR- Adopt a family and raised over $500
MSAC
SBA
SCAVMA- nothing to report

VIII. Announcements
Last semester the campus parking and transportation started discussing bicycle safety and responsible use, adherence to traffic laws. Formed subcommittee to help educate bicyclists. If you have ideas or interest in participating, let me know. (David Heise) Move forward through student sustainability
Sarah Z- Body Project deadline extended til Feb 19, if you know anyone who would like to head this up, let her know. Someone from a different discipline.
Milbre- Vagina Monologues Feb 20, 2pm Holly Hughes Feb 21
Lei-

IX. Adjournment