

The GPSEPC met on Monday April 20<sup>th</sup> from 3-5. The following members were in attendance: Andy Williams, Rebecca Proehl, Jeanne Foster, Jerry Brunetti, and Steve Miller. Dean Chris Sindt also was present for the meeting. Margaret Brown-Salazar was not in attendance.

There were two items on the agenda for the meeting: Graduate Handbook and item 2.4 from the BOS report.

Graduate Handbook--- The graduate handbook is near completion and we were asked to look it over before taking a vote on approving the document. There were a few areas of concern. 1) we made amendments to the academic appeals process so it now states that grade disputes follow a process that requires the students to first try to resolve the issue informally with faculty member and then the program director before filing a written appeal to the dean of the school. 2) we decided that the GPSEPC would continue to maintain oversight of the last two sections of the document (student code of conduct and community and student policies) rather than cede the responsibilities solely to the dean of student life. We made recommendations to simplify the language in these parts of the documents but realized that this is an on-going process and these parts of the document will have to be revisited during the next academic year. 3) we struggled to reach a decision about the language dealing with grading, specifically what grades constitute a passing grade and whether or not students should repeat a course with a grade lower than a B-. We will continue to work toward a resolution before our next meeting.

BOS 2.4—We reviewed the Building on Strengths - Strategic Plan 2007-2012 Task 2.4 document submitted to Brother Ronald Gallagher, Bethami Dobkin, Provost and Academic Vice President on February 15, 2009. After discussing several aspects of the document the consensus was that we are supportive of the accomplishments thus far and agreed to give our general support for the document, especially the action item to consider creating an administrative position comparable to the Vice-Provost for undergraduate academics. We feel like this position can really help provide guidance to all graduate programs. We did not discuss all of the items and will place this on the agenda again for our next meeting.