The Graduate Council met on Wednesday, August 22, 2018, at 3:30 p.m. in 229 Terrell Hall.

Members present: Fikri Avci, Michael Cacciatore, Georgia Calhoun, John Campbell, Joon Choi, Chad Clay, AnneMarie Conner, Cindy Hahamovitch, Georgia Harrison Hall, Tina Harris, John Hulland, Laura McAndrews, Javad Mohammadpour, Masaki Mori, Jessica Muilenburg, Kerry Oliver, Craig Osenberg, Daniel Perez, Amy Pollard, James Reap, Leara Rhodes, Katherine Thompson, Marc Van Iersel, and Dehai Zhao. Suzanne Barbour, Ron Walcott, Cheri Bliss, and Robin Bingham represented the Graduate School.

Members absent: Hamid Arabnia, Houjian Cai, Victoria Hasko, Denise Lewis, Jeffrey Mullen, Ming Zhang, and Chastity Jones (GPSA).

Dean Suzanne Barbour called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

New and returning members introduced themselves and were welcomed by Dean Barbour. Dean Barbour spoke on the structure of the Council as well as the various subcommittees.

Minutes of the March 28, 2018, Graduate Council meeting were approved as posted on the Graduate School website.

**Graduate Council Committees Reports and Action Items**

A. **Administrative Committee**
   Rotating Chair
   No business to report.

B. **Appeals Committee**
   Amy Pollard, Chair
   Since the last report to the Graduate Council, the Appeals Committee met once on August 16, 2018. The committee members present were Michael Cacciatore, AnnaMarie Conner, Cindy Hahamovitch, John Hulland, Kerry Oliver, and Kathy Thompson. Tina Harris served as a substitute. Ron Walcott, Cheri Bliss, and Kristin Lawrence from the Graduate School were present. The committee met to hear four dismissal appeals. One student was reinstated, and the other appeals were denied.

C. **Program Committee**
   Fikri Avci, Chair
   No business to report.

D. **Strategic Planning Committee**
   Jessica Muilenburg, Chair
   No business to report.
Old Business
No old business.

New Business

A. The Strategic Planning Committee has been charged to take on leading edge issues that could potentially change the way we administer graduate education at UGA. Possible topics proposed by Dean Barbour:

1. We currently only allow graduate students to include first author publications in their theses or dissertations. Given the focus on collaboration and in the life sciences on team science, should we consider allowing graduate students to include co-author publications in their dissertations and theses as well?

2. Should doctoral and master thesis defenses be open or closed? This refers to both the seminar part of the defense and also the questioning part of the defense. Who should be allowed to attend each of those sessions? Should there be an institutional policy on that or should it be determined program by program?

3. The Graduate School is requiring graduate students receiving support from the Graduate School to file certain paperwork. It is helpful for the professional development of students. For example:
   i. Individual Development Plans. Tools are on the Graduate School website to help them develop their IDPs.
   ii. Show they have some training in professionalism. In some cases it looks like the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR). Sometimes it is a course that trains them to be a faculty member.
   iii. Graduate students must have a mentor-mentee compact: how the mentor-mentee relationship will work, how often will they meet, who will call the meetings, what should the outcome of those meetings be, etc.

   These are good tools to keep a graduate student on track, be productive, finish their program, and go on to the career of their choice. Is this something that should be required of all graduate students at UGA whether they get support from the Graduate School or not?

4. How we handle graduate students that are dismissed from programs versus dismissed from the Graduate School?
   i. Dismissed from program, automatically dismissed from Graduate School?
   ii. If they are dismissed, are they or are they not allowed to apply to and be accepted by another program at UGA?

Other policies, administrative issues we should be looking at? Possible topics proposed by the Council:

5. Number of hours of transfer credits allowed into UGA graduate programs is currently six hours. Is there any flexibility in that?

6. Two issues that were raised last year that Council didn’t get to:
   i. Ways to increase the funding for graduate students.
   ii. Is the mental health coverage that graduate students get adequate?
The Strategic Planning Committee will meet and look at the topics raised and prioritize them. They’ll meet, discuss, do some benchmarking for comparative data, and bring proposals back to the Graduate Council to get input.

B. Also think about the way the Graduate Council does business and if there are things we should change in that context as well. Those are the kinds of things the Administrative Committee can take on during the year.

**Information Items**

Curriculum Report: The Graduate School has approved 63 new courses, 111 course revisions, and 101 deletions.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.