

**Graduate Administrators Council (GAC)**  
**Minutes for Thursday, April 12, 2012**  
**Dean's Conference Room, 2004 Constant Hall**  
**9:00 am to 10:30 am**

Attending: Brenda Neumon Lewis, Chair, Missy Barber, Osman Akan, Ali Ardalan, Richardean Benjamin, Bill Heffelfinger, Isao Ishibashi, Sharon Judge, Chris Osgood, David Selover, Deanne Shuman, Mary Swartz, Robert Wojtowicz,

Guest: Mike DeBowes, Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity

**Approval of March 29, 2012 Minutes**

Minutes were approved.

**Announcements/Updates**

Graduate Research Achievement Day – Thursday, April 19, 2012, 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm, North

scientific integrity issues and whether or not they would fall under the definition of academic exercise. DeBowes said no, they are actually covered by another policy on research misconduct through Dr. Adam Rubenstein's office.

Proposed policy changes include replacing the University Hearing Officer with an Academic Integrity Council comprised of faculty and students. If the student does not like the outcome of the Academic Integrity Council, the opportunity to appeal will be available. Panel members serve for one academic year, renewable for up to three years. Standards of classroom behavior is to be added as well as verbiage for attempted violations and prohibited conduct. Students can still request that an Academic Dishonesty notation be removed, however, if the misconduct was deliberate, it will not be removed.

The Board of Visitors will review the proposed changes to the policy at the June meeting.

### **Thesis and Dissertation Guidelines**

Dr. Ishibashi brought up the issue of student theses and dissertations being "owned" by ODU if they are fully or partially employed by the University.

Dr. Lewis agreed to query VCGS to see what other schools are currently doing.

Dr. Lewis also suggested that we invite Karen Eck, Jay Wright, and Brent Edington to the next Council meeting to discuss the issue.

### **GTA Instructor**

Dr. Osgood proposed that we create a full-time position to handle the TA training process. (Currently, the College of Sciences employs Kathy Moulton who is an hourly employee and she is assisting students from several colleges on campus.)

Council agreed that the position was needed and valuable. The question would be where would the best fit be within the organization.

Dr. Lewis said that GAC can make a recommendation. It was suggested that we invite Chandra to GAC. Dr. Lewis said it would also be helpful to have something written like a job description, benefits to graduate students, and goals for the position.

### **Additional Topics**

SACS - Dr. Lewis asked the Associate Deans if they had any examples of students that have gone through an appeal process, grade appeal or similar to show due process. If you have them, please send copies to Dr. Lewis.