

Graduate Committee Minutes

March 4th, 2016

Attendance: Gerri August, Jayashree Nimmagadda, Chris Marco, Cynthia Padula, Elisa Miller, Cheryl Williams

1. Discussion on a Spring event to promote graduate programs at RIC. Members brainstormed several ideas:
 - Dean of Graduate Studies and a small group of faculty representing several graduate programs at RIC could set up a table at the Spring admission event. The group felt that to gather faculty for an event next month would be challenging, but we could certainly plan to do this next year.
 - Twitter event: RIC media relations staff proposed this idea where current graduate students and program directors could participate/answer questions to prospective students. Two concerns were raised – 1) what if we put lots of effort, and only two questions are asked, and 2) prospective students sometimes ask basic questions that could be answered by simply perusing the website.
 - Another idea was to create a “road show” that the graduate committee could use to show-case graduate education at RIC at events (for example clean up day in April, homecoming). The kit could have a nice banner (like the one HPE has), table, brochures and one or two faculty.
 - Could we create and have a virtual open house, a synchronous event with a virtual tour of graduate studies at RIC?
 - Another idea shared was for the GC to host an annual conference that highlights faculty research from various disciplines. We could invite the community and offer several workshops that community members can attend.
2. B.A./M.A Programs – when do we charge graduate tuition rates. Is it after completion of 120 credits? If a student is graduating from an RIC undergraduate program and moving on the graduate program, do we still want the GRE? The group agreed that this conversation needs to happen when Leslie Schuster was present.