Interim Dean Wendy Crone called the meeting to order.

Introduction:

The minutes from the November 21, 2014 GSAPC meeting were approved as written.

Discussion Items

1. Interim Dean Crone and Associate Dean Daniel Kleinman presented the Ad Hoc Committee on Graduate School Restructuring report. Crone and Kleinman noted that work in the Graduate School had already begun in implementing the report’s clear short-term recommendations and priorities. The GSAPC members reinforced the importance of providing more graduate student funding, graduate student professional development opportunities, and graduate program data. The committee engaged in strategic planning discussions regarding possible inroads to achieving the priorities and recommendations as described in the Report.

2. Interim Dean Crone introduced the preliminary discussion regarding the evolving University budget, noting that the anticipated budget cuts would have serious and significant impacts on students, staff and faculty. Probable impacts of the budget cuts were discussed, including changes to the tuition remission surcharge, potential change in number of graduate students programs admit, and reduced graduate student funding paired with a higher cost of education. Dean Crone noted that the Graduate School is working diligently to address these issues and find new ways to support those affected by budget cuts. The discussion closed with Dean Crone’s call for stories of graduate students’ impacts across the state.

3. The discussion item “Anticipated Changes in Graduate Assistantship Policy” was re-scheduled for the March GSAPC meeting.