I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes of April 7, 2011 meeting - approved

III. Information/Announcements

-&gt; CANCELLED: Thursday, May 19, 2011, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. in 214 Hamilton Hall

IV. Topics for Discussion

-&gt; Enhancing Graduate Education – finalize recommendations and send to President Cruzado by April 29, 2011

  i) Dr. McCoy presented draft of RC recommendations letter that will be sent to President Cruzado and asked that the members review and critique.
  ii) Suggestions and discussion regarding providing the letter as an executive summary, along with background documents reflecting supporting data.
  iii) Data suggestions:
      a. Include current GRA/GTA stipend data
      b. Include data comparisons with national/peer institutions, specifically UofMT
      c. Include what impact recommendations will have on retention and quality of students
  iv) Revisions suggestions:
      a. Include suggestion to improve intellectual climate on campus by bringing in top-notch scientists as speakers for students to hear/experience.
      b. Define issues, then offer solutions/recommendations
      c. Include or not?: information about professional masters programs/professional doctorate programs (MSU has Accountancy, Nursing, Engineering that have professional masters programs)
d. Include what impact recommendations will have on retention and quality of students
e. Include expected accomplishments from recommendations
f. Include recommendation that every college have an Associate Dean for Research Enhancement that would be responsible for enhancing graduate education/production
g. Include recommendation that Deans include in their annual assessment of department’s PhD production/graduate education
h. Bridge funding will help address retention
v) Discussion:
   a. The Graduate School goal is to track students who did not complete program
   a. For any enhancement/incentive funds, requirement for proposals from department heads detailing use
   b. Recommendations focus all on students, but need to consider faculty, improve quality of faculty
c. MSU has many small departments that may have smaller PhD production numbers and may not have matching funds to write proposals for enhancement/incentive funds
vi) Plan:
   a. Review/critique McCoy/Fox draft of letter and Fox document, Doctoral Degree Enhancement Proposal, then using track change, email comments/revisions/suggestions to McCoy/Fox
   b. Target: Provide Executive Summary and Background Data to President Cruzado by early week of May 2

V. Discussion Topics for June 2nd meeting
   ➢ Facilitating Interdisciplinary Research
   ➢ Setting targets for OSP expenditures
   ➢ Social Sciences Initiative

VI. Discussion Topics for Fall Semester meetings
   ➢ Research Council Membership: selection processes, membership structure, etc.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 2, 2011, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. in 214 Hamilton Hall