The meeting was called to order by Ed Morris at 11:05 a.m.

The members introduced themselves, and Dr. Morris welcomed Dr. Kristine Latta to the committee as ex officio representative. Dr. Latta was appointed as Director of the College Office of Graduate Affairs, and she will serve as the Dean’s representative and liaison to the Policies, Procedures, and Awards Subcommittee

Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the December 8, 2011, minutes of the Committee on Graduate Studies. The motion was approved unanimously.

Report of the Curricular Changes Subcommittee
(Kees Van der Veen, reporting)

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the following course changes recommended by the subcommittee. The motion was approved unanimously.
  - ANTH 715, GEOG 805, PSYC 898

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the following new courses recommended by the subcommittee. The motion was approved unanimously.
  - CLSX 899 was approved pending course change approval
  - LING 742 was approved pending approval of the LING 738 curricular change form at the February 9th CGS meeting
  - PSYC 789

Report of the Policies, Procedures, and Awards Subcommittee
(Eve Levin, reporting)

Dean’s charge # 2

2- Provide recommendations to the Dean of the CLAS regarding the use of "interdisciplinary" or "multidisciplinary" tracks, options, or emphases in graduate programs. Contemporary graduate study at major research universities is by definition "interdisciplinary", and it seems redundant to have a specific track identified for this purpose when the student is more than capable of showing how his/her research and course of study provided a diverse and interdisciplinary experience. Furthermore, the newly renamed Master's and PhD in Interdisciplinary Studies (formerly called "Special Studies") already has this name, and there could be some confusion regarding the advising of students to take this track if there are so many competing options in the discipline-based graduate programs. The Dean is seeking recommendations on how graduate programs can best communicate the interdisciplinary experiences of their graduates such that our students are most competitive for positions in their fields.
PPA Subcommittee Recommendation:

1. To avoid confusion between the student-designed Master’s and Doctorate degrees in “Interdisciplinary Studies” and existing unit-based MA and PhD programs we recommend
   a. Removing the word “interdisciplinary” from the official title of the Peace and Conflict Studies and the Women’s Studies certificate programs.
   b. Recommending to Museum Studies that it choose a different name for its planned “interdisciplinary track.”
   c. Updating the KU Catalog page listing degree programs that arise out of centers rather than departments, to clarify the difference between established degree programs and the student designed “Interdisciplinary Studies” master’s and doctorate. Instead of entitling this page “Graduate Interdisciplinary Studies,” this page listing can be entitled “Cross-Departmental Degree Programs.” A separate page should be created to present the student-designed “Interdisciplinary Studies” degrees.
   Also: Remove “women, gender, and sexuality studies” from the list on this page of areas that do not have degree programs, because the Department of Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies offers the PhD. Genetics is included in Molecular Biosciences.

   The new paragraph would read:

   Cross-Departmental Degrees

   The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences offers graduate degrees that cross multiple departments and units.
   For information on these, see:

   Global and International Studies
   Indigenous Studies Program
   Latin American Studies
   Museum Studies
   Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies

   Graduate students in degree programs may add a cross-departmental certificate in the following areas:

   African Studies
   Brazilian Studies
   Central American and Mexican Studies
   Community Health and Development
   Gerontology
   Peace and Conflict Studies
   Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

   Cross-departmental studies that have no defined degree program may be authorized upon petition. See Interdisciplinary Studies in the Graduate Studies section of the catalog.

2. The second part of the Dean’s charge concerns marketing KU graduates as trained in an interdisciplinary manner. The committee sees this as part of a larger issue concerning the marketing and placement of our graduates, which itself requires more extensive study.

   There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Ed Morris at 11:46 a.m.

Upcoming Meetings
The next meetings of the CGS Subcommittees are Thursday, February 16, 2012.

- Curricular Changes Subcommittee, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM, 210 Strong Hall (CLAS Conference Room)
- Petitions & Program Changes, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM, 102 Strong Hall (Lea Smith’s Office)
- Policies, Procedures, and Awards, 11:00 AM-12:30 PM, 213 Strong Hall (RGS Conference Room)

The next meeting of the Committee on Graduate Studies is Thursday, February 9, 2012, 11:00 AM, 210 Strong Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Leatrice M. Smith, COGA Supervisor, CGS staff liaison