The meeting was called to order at 2:31 p.m. by Yuliang Liu, Chair.

I. Carnegie Committee (Chancellor Pembrook & Provost Cobb)
   - In general, it seemed that the committee found more support for staying doctoral/professional category rather than moving into the R2 category. Chancellor Randy Pembrook and Provost Denise Cobb are looking to answer the questions of how to become the best within the doctoral-professional category, how to communicate the final decision to the campus, and what the next steps are so that the University can move forward. It was stated that the plan is to develop working groups to identify research areas that need support and attention, improve the teacher-scholar model, work on anti-racism, make sure data reflects University goals, and work on becoming best in class. The Chancellor stated that there are 5-6 areas where these working groups will need to be created. There are also plans to communicate the findings to the rest of the campus.

II. Announcements
   a. Course Review Committee (CRC) Report – On Sharepoint
   b. Graduate Committee on Assessment (GCOA) Report – On Sharepoint
   c. Enrollment Management Report
      - Scott Belobrajdic emailed out the Spring census prior to the meeting. There is a 13% increase in graduate student enrollment for Spring 2021 compared to Spring 2020. Growth is shown across the board and not just in one program.
   d. Student Affairs Announcements
      - There have been concerns from Graduate Students about paying the textbook rental fee while some faculty are not utilizing textbook services. A new addition to the policy has been sent to the Textbook Advisory Board stating that all required textbooks must be requested through textbook services if it is eligible unless there is an exception with justification approved by the Dean of their school/college and the Provost.
   e. International Affairs Announcements
      - About 9 of the new international students have been hired as GA/TA’s, even though the Social Security Office has closed completely in Alton due to COVID-
19 difficulties. An exception to the policy was made to allow these students to begin work now while SSN appointments are pending. Additionally, Mary Weishaar invited everyone to attend the SIU System, Conversation of Understanding being hosted via zoom on February 23, 2021, from 5-7PM CST.

f. Graduate School Announcements
   - The vacant Pre-Award position has been filled by the new Grants & Contracts Associate Linda Zimmermann. Linda Skelton, the Coordinator for ethical compliance in the Graduate School, is retiring at the end of May 2021. A Graduate School feedback form has been created in Kuali Build. The Graduate School is publishing articles in the ORP News to help make faculty aware of the updated Research and Academic Misconduct policy and the new policy on authorship disputes. ProQuest is the system used to publish electronic theses and dissertations, and institutional level data is now available from ProQuest that focuses on retrieval of papers. The data has been sent out to different programs that utilize ProQuest. Jill Smucker presented the data from ProQuest to the Graduate Council.

g. Other Announcements
   - Yuliang Liu announced that SIU Systems Vice President Gireesh Gupchup has created a Faculty Advisory Committee. The committee is going to discuss faculty roles and responsibilities.

III. Approval of Minutes of December 17, 2020

   - The minutes were approved with no opposition.

IV. Public Comments

   - None.

V. Report of the Programs Committee

a) Applied Communications Studies – Interim Review
   - The department made points about changes based on suggestions from their program review. There have been personnel additions, a retirement of senior faculty member, collaboration, and interdisciplinary teaching that have helped to improve the morale of the faculty. The department is also working to improve the Graduate assessment plan and to reduce inconsistency between the ACS courses 501 and 502. The PC voted to accept the interim report but wrote a memorandum to suggest that the department fully implement their assessment plan and standardize the responsibilities of the Program Director.

b) English – Interim Review
   - Since their previous program review, the department has implemented orientation activities and website monitoring to alleviate student confusion. They have also increased their social media presence and have been working on different tactics to strengthen recruitment efforts. A new tenured faculty member has been hired into the program and they are seeking to expand secretarial support. The PC voted to accept the interim report but wrote a memorandum to the department to suggest expanding their curriculum and delivery methods, as well as redoubling on their recruitment efforts.
Michael Hair brought the above forward for Graduate Council approval. Mike Shaw motioned to approve items a-b; Barb McCracken seconded. The items were approved with no opposition.

VI. Report of the Educational and Research Policies (ERP) Committee

a) GR2021-12 – Promotion Policy for Graduate School Research Center Research Faculty
   • The policy has been revised to extend to centers that do not report to the Graduate School, such as the IRIS Center.

Barb McCracken brought the above forward for Graduate Council approval. Mike Shaw motioned to approve item a; Kay Gaehle seconded. The items were approved with no opposition.

VII. Continuing Business
   • None.

VIII. New Business
   • None.

IX. Adjournment
   • The meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.