9.6.24 Graduate Committee Meeting

Called to order 10am

**Present**: Sean Cote, Leonardo Pinheiro, Natasha Feinberg, Joan Walsh, Aswood Bousseau

**1) Report of the Chair**

**a. IGP committee volunteers**

* Individual graduate plans of study
* Leo is on board

**2) Open Discussion**

* No Dean, what should we do? Who does the feedback go to?
* Gabriella wants graduate committee to be involved in planning process
* The position has never been really well defined; needs a precise job description.
* Position carries responsibility w/o authority.
* Not sure where to submit requests to (i.e. for TA’s and GA’s)
* Has there been a time in the past when there’s been a committee but no dean?
	+ Leslie took on position 10-12 years ago & did a really good job
	+ Not sure why there’s no interim – maybe administration wants position to change.
* Needs to be a process or structure in place to have a pipeline of information
* Grad studies are moving forward at RIC so having infrastructure would be great
* UCC/Undergraduate Curriculum Committee has two committees that meet: policy change & program approvals. Why don’t we?
	+ Maybe a #s game (much fewer grad students)
	+ We could work on our grad manual
* Should we call it something besides “Dean”?
	+ We could come up with a job description and submit to the provost
	+ We worked on one last year (Sean has a copy)
	+ Name holds some weight
* A more micro approach seemed more effective than a macro approach
* No accountability - no one has to report to the Dean
* Responsible for connectivity between the schools/colleges as opposed to undergrad deans in each school
* Graduate dean is only experienced in their own department

**3) Questions**

* Who do we address questions to for now?
	+ Sean is looking into it.
* Are there any other goals that you have for the graduate committee?
	+ Not at the moment.

**4) Notes**

* Graduate studies fair Oct 17, 4:30-6:30 in student union ballroom
* Meeting dates are on graduate committee website (first Fridays of each month)

Meeting adjourned at 10:45

Minutes submitted by Lucia Perluck