I. Call to Order at approximately 3:10 p.m.

II. March 6, 2014 Minutes approved

III. Election of one new Graduate Council Secretary to replace Dr. Rukmana:
Eligible members include: Dr. Carla Curran, Dr. Carol Pride, Dr. Harpal Singh, Dr. Bernita Berry, Dr. Beehrooz Kalantari, and Dr. Shinaz Jindani. Dr. Yousef Jahmani, Dr. Hae-Yeon Choi, Dr. Arav Ouandlous

We discussed whether Dr. Rukmana should be a formal Graduate Council member. Outcome: we agreed to serve on a rotating basis as no one stepped forward to be nominated. Dr. Curran offered to take minutes for the 3 April meeting only.

IV. Election of one new Graduate Council Graduate Student Affairs Committee member to replace Dr. Ulysses S. Brown. Eligible members include: Dr. Yousef Jahmani, Dr. Hae-Yeon Choi, Dr. Arav Ouandlous
Outcome: Dr. Yousef Jahmani elected

V. Election of two new Graduate Faculty Committee members to replace Dr. Tara Cox and Dr. Kenneth Sajwan. (Dr. Beehrooz Kalantari is the current sitting member of the committee). Eligible members include: Dr. Carla Curran, Dr. Carol Pride, Dr. Harpal Singh, Dr. Bernita Berry, Dr. Shinaz Jindani, Dr. Yousef Jahmani, Dr. Hae-Yeon Choi, and Dr. Arav Ouandlous.
Outcome: Dr. Hae-Youn Choi and Dr. Harpal Singh elected

VI. Graduate Thesis Writing Pro-Seminar Proposal (Dr. Yount)

Dr. Yount proposed the new course that she would like offered once per year for 2 credits. Dr. Jindani requested it be offered twice. Dr. Curran suggested that the course be offered as 1 credit for two reasons: 1) it will help us conform to the policy we discussed above requiring grad students to be enrolled in at least 1 credit the semester they are graduating; and 2) at least in MSMS faculty pay for student tuition through grant funding and the burden of the enrollment cost would be halved if the course was 1 credit. There was support for the course proposal, but Business faculty didn’t think there was enough flexibility in their curriculum to allow much participation. The course is optional not required. Dr. Singh motioned that we talk with our respective colleges about the issue. Dr. Curran seconded.

VII. Graduate Student Coding Issues: New Policy needed for inclusion in the Graduate Catalog – (see attachment) (Dr. Hardy)

VIII. New Graduate Catalog Policy required to clarify graduate enrollment and readmission – (Ms. Holliman)

Discussion: We have no formal policy to reapply—just signature of graduate advisor
Dr. Ouandlous stated that 1 year isn’t equivalent to 2 semesters and that the policy should be based on years not semesters.
Dr. Jindani suggested ABT “all but thesis” status.

Students must be enrolled in at least 1 credit the semester they are graduating. Dr. Hardy was going to determine if excess fees could be waived for graduate student tuition.

Dr. Curran moved to accept the MSMS policy on enrollment and readmission as the policy for all Graduate programs. Motion seconded by Dr. Berry.

IX. Procedure for thesis submission to the library and the pros/cons of the open access/embargo issue (Dr. Curran)

Outcome: Dr. Curran agreed to talk to Ms. Fayoyin to revise the policy and develop a form

X. List of Current Active Graduate Faculty (attached)

Outcome: we revisited earlier decision to provide 1 year for faculty to reapply, although Dr. Chetty didn’t think that was necessary. Exceptions must be made for incoming faculty who were hired to teach graduate courses. They should apply within that semester.

XI. One new Application (Dr. Jindani) for Graduate Faculty Status to be forwarded to the Graduate Faculty Committee for consideration.

Outcome: Revisited discussion about who should be approving faculty for Graduate status. In particular the pros/cons of only 3 faculty (outside of the Council) making the decision as opposed to the Council as a whole. Dr. Curran agreed to draft a policy and Dr. Pride seconded.

XII. Proposed streamlined process for approving Non-Substantial Course Changes (e.g. typos, course title) (see attachment) (Dr. Bell)

Outcome: Dr. Jindani wanted clarification on policy regarding curriculum change even if it is small. Does it go through the department or not? Much discussion about whether it goes though Faculty Senate. Dr. Oulandlous said that Grad Council has to account to the Senate or we must change bylaws if we aren’t going to. Dr. Chetty agreed. However, several faculty said that the practice has not been to obtain such approval for grad courses.

XIII. Graduate Bylaw Form Issue Discussion (Dr. Kalantari) tabled in his absence

XIV. Announcements

Dr. Pride offered to develop language for Faculty Handbook indicating that Graduate Faculty load is 9 credits per semester.

Dr. Chetty announced the Science Day. Discussion ensued regarding how judges were assigned and the shortage of judges in certain disciplines.

XV. Adjourn