The meeting was called to order at 3:32. The minutes from November 18, 2009 were approved as distributed.

**Guest: Brad Shelton, Vice Provost for Budget and Planning**

The Graduate Council opened the discussion with member introductions to Vice Provost Shelton. The University of Oregon is implementing an Academic Budget Model to distribute tuition. Vice Provost Shelton provided an overview of the budget model and explained how the new model would apply to both undergraduate and graduate education. Council members discussed issues such as the potential impact of the model on interdisciplinary programs and graduate enrollment growth, particularly at the doctoral level. Council members were encouraged to contact Provost Shelton if they have further questions.

**Announcements**

Dean Friestad reported the results of the electronic voting by Graduate Council members on the Revised Proposal for a New Instructional Program – Ph.D. in Architecture. These votes were recorded during the month of December, with the final vote being cast on January 4, 2010. The result of the vote is that the Graduate Council recommends approval of the Architecture Department’s proposal for a new Ph.D. program. The final vote count was: 9 - recommend approval; 1 - do not recommend approval, 1 – abstain, and 2 – no response. Dean Friestad reported that the proposal has now been forwarded to Academic Affairs.

Dean Morgen announced that the Graduate School will be conducting the First Annual Graduate Student Research Forum: “Crossing Borders” on April 30, 2010. The theme “Crossing Borders” aims to illuminate the growing need for scholars across all fields to critically examine interdisciplinary work as a transformative academic and social force. Graduate students are encouraged to submit proposals for participation in such formats as posters, panels, think tanks, roundtables, etc. The deadline for submitting these proposals has been extended to February 6, 2010. The submission form can be found on the Graduate School website. Dean Morgen invited Council members to attend the Forum and asked them to encourage their graduate students to attend as well as submit proposals.

**Old Business**

**Graduate Student Experience Survey**

Dean Morgen reported that the first phase of analysis of Survey results has been completed and shared with the Deans of each School or College at the University of Oregon. The Deans have, in turn, been asked to share the results with their Department heads and faculty. Dean Morgen reported that the meetings with the Deans have been positive.
The next area of data to be analyzed explores differences among student groups (by gender, race and ethnicity, international v. non-international, and indicators of first generation and class) and data on inequitable treatment.

Dean Morgen also stated that after Survey results have been shared with UO faculty, it is a priority to get this information out to the graduate students this year.

Due to time constraints, further discussion was tabled until the next Graduate Council meeting.

**New Business**

**Proposal for the Initiation of a New Instructional Program Leading to the Oregon Leadership in Sustainability Certificate**

Dean Friestad began the meeting by noting that the approval of a Certificate programs is an intra-institution decision with the Provost making the final decision after the Graduate Council’s recommendation. The proposers would like to move forward as soon as possible with this Certificate program. Dean Friestad asked the Council to review the Proposal and forward to her any questions or concerns so that they can be dealt with before the next Graduate Council meeting where it will be an action item again.

The Council adjourned at 5:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kim Sheehan, Secretary