The meeting was called to order at 2:07 pm in 427a Waterman.

1. Approval of the Minutes. The minutes of October 2019 were approved as written.

2. Libraries Update, Dean Geffert. Dean Geffert provided a presentation to the committee on scholarly publishing and what it means to UVM. Feedback from the RSCA is extremely valuable and continued conversations will help mold new processes as the university moves forward.

3. Graduate College Update, Dean Forehand.

   A. Three Minute Thesis Competition. The Graduate College is hosting its first annual Three Minute Thesis Competition on March 16th and 19th. There will be an informational session on December 2nd from 4:30 to 5:30pm and again on Thursday, December 12th from 4:00-5:00 both in Waterman 338.

   B. Parental Leave Draft.

Parental Accommodation – Full time student with full time funding assistantship or fellowship

Eligibility:
Both parents are eligible and time may be taken jointly or sequentially. Both leaves must be taken within 6 months of childbirth or adoption.
Must have been full time student in the prior semester and be in good academic standing (GPA 3.0 or above).

Must have been funded as a full time assistant or fellow and successfully completed duties for the immediately prior semester (fall or spring) to qualify for parental accommodation.

Must notify Graduate College and home department 90 days in advance of Parental Accommodation start (with contingencies for unexpected change).

Must not have had a parental accommodation with in the prior 12 months.

**Note:** Graduate Executive Committee supports the premise that all students funded with assistantships or fellowships have 7 weeks paid parental accommodation and suggests UVM payer should pay for this for UVM-funded students and make up the difference for externally funded sources that don’t allow 7 weeks. What’s presented here is less ambitious.

### Accommodation

Student will be approved to have “full time status” with reduced credit load of 5 or more credits to be eligible for their assistantship. Reduced credit load is allowed for semester of birth or adoption and for the following semester.

One week paid childbirth or adoption accommodation will be provided.

Six weeks unpaid leave from academic and assistantship responsibilities.

Students on 12 month assistantships may use their two weeks paid time off to receive two weeks’ pay during this time.

Students on 9 month assistantships may use their one week paid time off to receive one week pay during this time.

University payer of stipend for general fund assistantships responsible for hiring/paying for replacement during the accommodation as needed.

Unless prohibited by the external funding source, payment of paid leave is by the same external funding source.

If funding source allows, will be paid for 7 weeks: one week childbirth or adoption accommodation and 6 weeks parental leave, up to the maximum the source allows.

### Academic:

Student Services Specialist in the Graduate College will work with the student and faculty to determine the best academic approach, which will vary depending on time of expected birth or adoption and where they are in the progression of their program.

Incomplete grades may be used as needed to span the 7 weeks hiatus from academic work. GRAD 901 or 902 may be used to maintain a minimum enrollment of 5 credits (incompletes may be given for these continuous enrollment designations).

Students will maintain eligibility for UVM student health insurance and utilization of Center for Health and Well-being.

Stephen Keller motioned to support the Parental Leave Policy draft changes presented by Dean Forehand, Katie Gough seconded the motion.

Approve: 12  Oppose: 0  Abstain: 0

The RSCA approved supporting the new Parental Leave Policy draft changes.

### C. Graduate College Highlights
Graduate College

Graduate Faculty Meeting
11-7-19

Presented by:
Cindy Forehand
Dean of the Graduate College
University of Vermont Graduate College

New & Total Enrollment
Graduate Enrollment and Net Tuition Revenue

Net tuition revenue increased by 58% over 4 years.

Graduate Enrollment and Net Tuition Revenue

IS net tuition revenue increased by 24% while OoS net tuition revenue increased by 86% over 4 years.
For AY 19/20 this represents:
- 6% Increase in Applications
- 3% Increase in Admissions
- 3% Increase in Acceptance
- 9% Increase in New Enrollment
- 48% Yield from Admitted Pool
- 27% Yield from Applicant Pool

Admitted Yield = # admitted that enrolled
Applicant Yield = # applied that enrolled

Fall 2019 Newly Enrolled Graduate Student Origin
Dean’s Report: R1 Aspirations

UVM is an R2 University (High Research in Carnegie Classification) The question of what it would take to be R1 (Highest Research) has come up. The answer is that it would require a multi-pronged, multi-year approach.

As a very rough estimate (and assuming other schools don’t change), we would need to:

- Increase our Science and Engineering Research Expenditures by ~30%
- Substantially increase our Non-Science and Engineering Expenditures
- Increase the number of post-docs and non-faculty research staff with doctorates by ~50%
- Triple the number of social science doctorates awarded
- Increase the number of science doctorates awarded by ~25%
- Increase the number of other doctorates awarded by ~50%
Dean’s Report: R1 Aspirations

Gold standard for measuring University research activity is the Higher Education Research and Development report (HERD) which summarizes total R&D expenditures annually at Universities including UVM.

An assessment of accounting practices over R&D expenditures indicates we may be substantially underreporting research expenditures.

One key area for this group: all the general fund tuition scholarship for GRAs and Predoctoral Fellows on research focused training grants can be reported, which we have not been doing.

Colleges/schools will need to assign graduate students working on research to the GRA expense account and use the appropriate research function or department research function in the budgets being charged for their payroll.

Specific details will be coming out shortly and the graduate college will work with you to ensure we get all your students coded appropriately.

Graduate Executive Committee Actions - abridged

Approved
• Name change for the Animal and Nutrition and Food Sciences PhD to Animal Biosciences, with removal of NFS part of curriculum
• Online post-professional doctorate in Occupational Therapy (OTD)
• Process and application for Practitioner-based category of Graduate Faculty Status
• Updated guidelines for AMP students/programs
• DRAFT Parental Leave Policy

Discussed
• Issue with 200 level courses in grad curricula (NECHE noted)
• 295 courses - lack of attention to grad component and no review
• No longer approve 295 special topics courses (and current ones removed from catalog), and instead require all special topics courses that are intended for graduate students be offered at the 395 level (can collocate with the 295 equivalent for UG) (Presage new course numbering system)
• Initiation of 3 minute thesis competition
4. **Burack Discussions.** The committee went into executive session to discuss the Burack nominations. They will send their recommendations to the Office of the President.

The meeting adjourned at 2:02 am.

The next meeting of the RSCA will be January 9, 2020.