Chair Christine Finnan called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

No changes to meeting minutes and minutes are approved.

Kate Keeney volunteered to be secretary and the group approved.

The members discussed the need for a new meeting time that did not conflict with current standing meetings that permitted the attendance of Ex-Officio members, Brian McGee and Lynn Cherry. The new time will be the First Friday of every month at 10:00am. This option will least disrupt the committee work moving to the Graduate Council and then Senate.

The group discussed using an OAKS site vs Curriculog to manage discussion re: new proposals. They made the decision to use an email list for general
communications and to attempt to use the comment feature in Curriculog. If this does not work, they will revisit the issue.

b. Ad Hoc Committee on the Future of Graduate Education update

Some committee members served on this committee and commented on the success of the group last year. A major recommendation is to have a Dean of the Graduate School (different than the Provost). Committee work is now with the Board who will review content at the upcoming October meeting. A Dean would help provide an administrative structure to assist with controlled growth of graduate programs.

c. Work to carry over from 2016-17

i. Policies on stacking
   Christine explained this term to the group. Jon mentioned “stacking” or modular education as a trend in graduate programs. Other schools have systems like this in place. The group discussed the pros and cons of stacking certificates (or other combinations) to lead to a master’s degree. This committee will continue to be involved in this discussion.

ii. Policies on changes in admissions
   Christine addressed the need for keeping appropriate admissions criteria but having flexibility for students with a special need. “Bending the rules” needs to be done for everyone (policies across campus). Jon noted the constant balance between quality and quantity. Robyn noted that changes in graduate admission criteria will now come to this committee for review. Christine noted that this is valuable discussion for Graduate Council. We could invite program directors to address this committee. Also, the committee will work to develop policies around this topic in the coming year.

iii. Clarification of “meets with” and “cross list”
   Christine discussed the benefits and challenges (including renumbering courses) of “cross listing” courses between undergraduate and graduate levels. Ben noted the advantages of being able to do this. Many students have a similar background and it makes sense to combine levels to have courses “make.” Christine said that it is critical to a number of programs. Jon noted the requirements of SACSCOC; there are different admissions and assessment requirements for undergrad/grad. We need clear policies across campus. The committee will continue to hear about this, but likely not be involved in developing policies.

iv. Other carry over?
   Ben noted that the College seems to have a higher criteria than other schools for number of students in graduate courses in order to “make.” The number may be 8, but there are exceptions to this rule.
E. For the good of the order

The next meeting will be Friday, Oct. 6 at 10:00am. The committee will review the Data Sciences proposal. Because this is not in Curriculog, Christine will send the proposal with the meeting agenda in advance of the next meeting. She will also send the committee by-laws to all members to that they understand the charge of the committee. Robyn reminded the group that all meeting minutes and agendas are online.

F. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 11:05 am.