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M. Farmer-Kaiser reported that the Office of Research has committed to funding a full-time position for the Stats Lab in response to the long-standing recommendation of the Retention Committee and Graduate Council. She added that, while a fall start date had been hoped for, the position should be advertised shortly and that they will push for a quick start date.

M. Farmer-Kaiser reported that graduate students will be awarded diplomas and graduate degrees conferred in the academic college graduation ceremonies beginning this fall semester. Doctoral hooding will take place on the Thursday evening prior to the commencement ceremonies in a new doctoral hooding ceremony hosted by the Graduate School. Neither a Graduate School ceremony nor a general assembly will be held during the fall and spring semesters.

M. Farmer-Kaiser summarized a report submitted by C. Parker noting that, in addition to meeting with the Provost, Dr. Jamie Hebert, and Dean Farmer-Kaiser, one doctoral and three masters candidacy requests were approved on behalf of the Graduate Council.

A. Mayeaux reported that, while the Graduate Council has always voted to approve candidacy each month, it has been confirmed while reviewing changes to the candidacy requirements that there is not a policy in the University Catalog requiring this practice. M. Farmer-Kaiser added that, historically, this practice dates to long before she was dean and that discussion has tended to focus on accuracy of names and degree types rather than the meaning of candidacy; because names and degree types now are pulled directly from Banner the report is more information only than ever before. She noted also that later a request will be forthcoming to the Graduate Council proposing revisions to the process for admission to candidacy for doctoral students but that the question of candidacy review and approval should be considered separately. After a general discussion about the meaning of candidacy and the role of those who approve, a motion was made that the Graduate Council no longer review candidacy reports each month. Motion seconded and carried.

1 with students in their departments and agreed that the problem should be addressed. A. Mayeaux
2 relayed reports received by C. Parker. A draft resolution was presented to the Graduate Council to
3 address the issue. The resolution stated that the members of the Graduate Council are concerned that
4 talk of building security and keycard serve as a distraction that create unnecessary and new institutional
5 barriers to success and recognize the need for much more discussion of administrative issues with
6 academic affairs before new policies or procedures that impact research and graduate students' success
7 are instituted. The resolution draft also stated that the members of the Graduate Council expect
8 building keys to be distributed to all grad students who need them and who have presented a key
9 request form with the approval of their department head without delay. D. Squires agreed to assist
10 further with reviewing the text of the resolution for clarity, and a motion was made to pass and submit
11 the resolution. Motion seconded and carried.
12
13 Motion made to adjourn at 3:24. Motion seconded and carried.