The meeting was called to order by GCCC Chair Howell.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Gaillard made a motion, seconded by Mantzke, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE MARCH 16, 2015, GCCC MEETING. *Motion passed unanimously.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Minutes from the November 10, 2014, meeting were approved electronically.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mantzke made a motion, seconded by Armstrong, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. *Motion passed unanimously.* The following minutes with no graduate curricular items were so received.

* College of Business #4
* College of Business #5
* College of Business #6
* College of Education #6
* College of Education #7a
* College of Education #8
* College of Education #9
* College of Health and Human Sciences #10
* College of Liberal Arts and Sciences #11
* College of Liberal Arts and Sciences #12

The following minutes with graduate curricular items were so received.

* College of Business #7
* College of Liberal Arts and Sciences #10
COLLEGE MINUTES FOR DISCUSSION

**College of Education #7**

Howell introduced Wei-Chen Hung, department chair for Educational Technology, Research and Assessment, who introduced the proposal to change the Ed.D. in Instructional Technology to a Ph.D. program. Armstrong made a motion, seconded by Schraufnagel, TO APPROVE THE GRADUATE-LEVEL CURRICULAR ITEMS IN COLLEGE OF EDUCATION #7 (1/13/15). Hung said that the department has been working on this proposal for several years. They did a benchmarking of other similar programs and the majority of them have moved to a Ph.D. program. He added that the training of students in the program is primarily research focused and not necessarily for becoming practitioners in the field, therefore it makes sense to convert the program to a Ph.D. The term “convert” was clarified. Smith said the terminology with the Illinois Board of Higher Education is Reasonable and Moderate Extension. She added that this has been done before at NIU. Schraufnagel asked if there was any reason to keep the Ed.D. and Hung replied that there would not be, especially with limited resources. Hung also said that the faculty discussed whether the Ph.D. program should go forward as a new program, but decided the conversion would be quicker. The increasing demand for a Ph.D. program by students was discussed. Mantzke observed that the current curriculum is representative of a Ph.D. program and asked Hung if the curriculum had changed over the years. Hung replied that it had, that the program has been updating the curriculum and adding research courses and requirements. There were questions about what happens to the students who are currently enrolled in the Ed.D. and it was reported that they will be able to complete the program under old catalogs. Hung said that current students would also have the opportunity to switch to the Ph.D. program. The GCCC also discussed how the faculty burden and student ratio might change with the Ph.D. The demand would increase, but it was noted that faculty from other departments in the college, as well as adjunct faculty, help teach some of the ETRA courses. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Next meeting, April 13. Smith asked that if there were any minor items for consideration if this could be done via an electronic meeting and committee members agreed this would be acceptable.