MSE-PD Council – March 17, 2011

Present: Zbikowski, Johnson, Mason, O’Brien, Peters, Schroeder, Hohenshell, Witte

1. Approval of minutes – approved

2. Approval of agenda – approved

3. Discussion surrounding the idea of creating tracks (submitted by Pat Shaw and Steve Albrechtsen) for our graduate students and whether that particular curricular change was necessary to make the Capstone experience better and/or provide more clarity regarding the project expectation(s).

- Feedback
  - Does suggested outline(s) of the capstone experience essentially change what we can already do?
  - When would students get the information necessary to select a track and would they know early enough in their personal process to get the proper course work?
  - Is it necessary to create tracks if we change the midpoint course and capstone course to 3 credits each?
  - Motion (Peters/Mason) to remove the 1 credit advising requirements and change the midpoint course and capstone course to 3 credits.
    - Approved
  - MSE-PD committee would like to work with the instructors of 780, midpoint, and capstone courses to streamline the material and/or expectations for each course.

4. Committee members are encouraged to bring in suggestions for name changes for the midpoint course and Capstone, as well as content suggestions for each.
   - Goal is to define Capstone integrating the description we have and the information provided in the proposal presented by Dr. Albrechtsen.
   - As well as clarify where students will get the knowledge and preparation.
     - There is an on-line orientation for the cohort groups.
     - John is looking into how this could be used for all students.