I. ACTION ITEM

1. Minutes from the March 18, 2010 Graduate Council meeting.

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. For the past two years, the Graduate School has prepared and submitted to the college Deans, Provost and President a Quantitative Assessment of PhD Programs. The attached Excel spreadsheet includes three tabs for your review. We are seeking ways to improve the assessment and invite your comments.

3. Interdisciplinary education, particularly at the PhD level, plays a critical role in higher education. Recently, the topic has been discussed with Faculty Senate Councils and may garner additional attention by the Senate next year. Directors of interdisciplinary programs are concerned that UF’s new budget model may negatively affect the faculty’s involvement in interdisciplinary/cross college interactions. Attached is a brief statement developed for the Senate Policy Council that identifies areas that may need attention. Moreover, defining the characteristics of interdisciplinary programs may help in the development of methods to promote and reward these important programs.