

## GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

The Graduate Council met Tuesday, April 8, 2003, in the MSC Boardroom at 3:00 p.m. with Dr. Mathew Kanjirathinkal presiding. Members present were: Mr. Spencer Anderson, Dr. Robert Baumgardner, Dr. Judy Ford, Dr. Dale Funderburk, Dr. Dean Ginther, Dr. Wayne Linek, Mr. Michael Miller, Dr. Chester Robinson, Dr. R. N. Singh, Dr. Jon Travis, and Dr. Janet Walker. Members absent were: Mr. Sankaranarayanan Appadurai, Dr. Bobby Carmichael, Dr. Shawn Carraher, Dr. Helene Halvorson, Dr. Ted Hansen, and Dr. Dayle Yeager.

Minutes for the March 11, 2003, meeting were approved.

The recommendation from the Scholarship ad hoc committee (Dr. Judy Ford, chair, Dr. Bobby Carmichael, and Dr. Helene Halvorson) was presented by Dr. Ford in the form of a motion and seconded by Dr. Baumgardner. The Jerry & Marilyn Morris Distinguished Doctoral Student Award will be given to Ms. Reba Criswell (Counseling) and the Master's Distinguished Student Award will be given to Ms. Deanna Mullins (Social Work) at the Honors Day Luncheon on April 25, 2003. Departmental Doctoral Distinguished Students are: Reba Criswell (Counseling), Scott Farler (Educational Administration), Holly Jones (Psychology & Special Education), and Lance Weldy (Literature & Languages). Departmental Master's Distinguished Students are: Velma Burnett (Music), Debra Cavett (History), John Denney (Mathematics), Jing Miao Gao (Computer Science), Pamela Kendrick (Sociology), Ida Kozlowska-Day (Literature & Languages), Roy Wayne Moody (Health, Kinesiology & Sports Studies), Connie Murchison (Business Administration), Deanna Mullins (Social Work), Leona Rushing (Mass Media, Communications & Theatre), and Brenda Terry (Counseling).

Dr. Kanjirathinkal announced the results of the recent Graduate Council elections. Dr. Dayle Yeager was re-elected and Dr. Wendell Edwards was elected to represent the College of Business and Technology. Dr. Phyllis Erdman and Dr. Dick Fulkerson will represent the College of Education and Human Services and College of Arts & Sciences, respectively.

### **Committee on Administration**

Dr. Walker presented the proposed new admissions criteria for the M.S.W. After a discussion concerning the use of the GRE exam for admissions purposes, Dr. Chester Robinson moved that the proposal be tabled. Dr. Singh seconded the motion and the motion was passed by a vote of 7 to 3.

### **Committee on Graduate Faculty, Research and Instruction**

Dr. Travis presented the committee report on Master's Comprehensive Exams. The committee responded to the following questions:

What alternatives to the options given in procedure A11.44 Examinations for Graduate Degrees should be available to departments?

No other alternatives need to be included in the procedure, since performance encompasses portfolio development.

Should the examination be separate from any particular course?

Though the examination can be aligned with one particular course, it should be, by definition, comprehensive, and thus cover all courses in the program.

The committee report suggested that “Each department should develop specific criteria for the master’s comprehensives and make these criteria available to students.” The Graduate Council suggested that the comprehensive examination report form be revised to include the “portfolio” option. There was further discussion concerning the need for departments to adhere to the procedure and that compliance should be monitored.

### **Committee on Curriculum**

Dr. Singh presented a committee report on “Transferring Courses from Foreign Universities”

The committee studied the issue and proposed a new procedure where credits earned through a Study Abroad or exchange agreement between A&M-Commerce and a specific university be considered as transfer work. Standards will be the same as those used to transfer credit from domestic universities. Dr. Singh moved that the committee report be approved with a second from Dr. Ginther. The Graduate Council unanimously approved the motion.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Ms. Louise Skinner  
Secretary to the Graduate Council