

## GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

February 10, 2009

The Graduate Council met Tuesday, February 10, 2009, in the Rayburn Student Center Pride Conference Room (#231) at 3:00 p.m. with Dean Allan D. Headley presiding. Members present were: Dr. John Hanners, Dr. John Humphreys, Dr. Ben Jang, Dr. Jeff Kopachena, Dr. Sharon Kowalsky, Ms. LeAnn Nash, Dr. Linda Openshaw, Dr. Derek Royal, Ms. Stacey Stancik, Dr. Jon Travis, and Dr. Janet Walker. Dr. Ken Alford, Dr. Harry Fullwood, Dr. Chester Robinson, Dr. Steven Shwiff, and Dr. Dayle Yeager were absent. Dr. Mary Beth Sampson, Vice Chair, was also in attendance.

### **Action Items**

The minutes from the last Graduate Council, December 9, 2008, were approved.

#### **Committee on Administration**

Dr. Jon Travis presented information on possible changes to A&M-Commerce admission categories as well as what other system universities use. After a lengthy discussion on the pros and cons of the use of different terminologies, Dr. Openshaw made a motion to allow the Graduate School to change the terminology from *probationary* to *conditional*, if deemed necessary. The motion was seconded by Dr. Travis and unanimously approved by the Graduate Council.

### **Discussion Items**

#### **Committee on Curriculum**

Dr. Hanners presented information on the curriculum approval process. All Council members have access to the electronic curriculum requests. Lisa Robinson can provide the username and password if needed. He asked Council members to review the requests for anything that does not look right, any proliferation of coursework, and the duplication of coursework. Comments should be made online by March 3, 2009, to give the committee time to review the requests and council member's concerns. He noted that this year Form 6 for changes to degree outlines is also available on line. Dean Headley encouraged Graduate Council student representatives to participate in the process.

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

Dr. Royal presented information on the upcoming graduate faculty application reviews and the senior faculty six-year reviews. The committee will review all applications and present their recommendations at the March meeting. Council members can now view the applications on a secured website.

Dr. Headley informed the Council that Deans Council has asked the Council to re-examine the recommendation on faculty loads for faculty supervising dissertations and address specific concerns of members of Deans Council. The committee will bring a revised recommendation to the Graduate Council for their consideration.

The Graduate Council discussed a request from a graduate student at the Mesquite Metroplex Center to keep students at off campus locations aware of Graduate Council activities and actions. The Graduate Council student representatives will re-send an e-mail to all graduate students requesting input/concerns from them. It was also suggested that the graduate representatives should inform graduate students that Graduate Council minutes are available on the Graduate School webpage.

### **Information Items**

Dr. Sampson presented an update on the Doctoral Coordinators' Committee.  
Update on Spring 2009 Enrollment

Dates to remember

Graduate School Expo March 31, 2009, 7:00 p.m. at the Mesquite Metroplex Center Leadership Room

Graduate Advisor's Roundtable March 4, 2009, Rayburn Student Center # 213C

Upcoming Educational & Training Dates

Ethics in Research February 20, 2009

Finding Grant Opportunities February 27, 2009

Grantwriting March 6, 2009

Writing Goals & Objectives April 17, 2009

Creating Budgets & Justifications April 24, 2009

ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned at 4:00.

Louise Skinner

Secretary to the Graduate Council