

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

February 12, 2008

The Graduate Council met Tuesday, February 12, 2008, in the MSC Boardroom at 3:00 p.m. with Dean Allan D. Headley presiding. Members present were: Dr. Hasan Coskun, Dr. Harry Fullwood, Dr. John Hanners, Dr. Ben Jang, Ms. Elaine Lin, Mr. Gideon Mazambani, Dr. Chris Myers, Dr. Chester Robinson, Dr. Mary Beth Sampson, Dr. Philip Seminet (for Dr. Derek Royal), and Dr. Dayle Yeager. Members absent were: Dr. Ken Alford, Dr. Jeff Kopachena, Dr. Linda Openshaw, Dr. Steven Shwiff, and Dr. Janet Walker. Dr. Jon Travis, Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies and Research was also in attendance.

Action Items

The minutes from the last Graduate Council, December 11, 2007, were approved.

Committee on Faculty, Research & Administration

Dr. Ben Jang presented the committee report recommending changes to Procedure 12.04.99.R0.02 Graduate Faculty Membership. A motion to accept the recommendation was made by Dr. Jang and seconded by Dr. Seminet. The Council unanimously approved the recommendation to make the following changes:

1. Remove the Associate 3-year option
2. Strengthen the criteria for Associate Membership

Discussion Items

Dr. Travis led a discussion on using a successful completion of the Intensive English program offered at UNT in place of a TOEFL, since UNT is a member of the Federation of North Texas Area Universities. TWU, the other member of the Federation, accepts students from this program. The Committee on Administration was charged to review the issue.

Dr. Headley informed the Council that Dean's Council, chaired by Interim Provost Mary Hendrix, has asked the Graduate Council to review the Faculty Workload Procedure in regard to released time for theses and dissertations.

Dr. Travis gave a brief statement on previous Council actions and asked the members to provide input on what they thought the procedure should include. Comments were:

- a. There needs to be a uniform workload procedure, then released time can be addressed.
- b. Time for theses/dissertations should be considered workload equivalencies and not course reductions.
- c. There is not adequate compensation for thesis/dissertation supervision.
- d. Some institutions give faculty a bonus for thesis/dissertations instead of released time.
- e. Should be determined by credit hour production.

Dr. Headley charged the Committee on Graduate Faculty, Research, & Instruction to study the issue and to bring a proposal before the Council.

Information Items

Dr. Headley announced that there is a problem with Graduate Assistants leaving their position after 12th class day and after receiving an out-of-state tuition waiver. To address this problem, GANTs/GARs/GATs will be informed of their responsibilities when they accept a position. If they

should leave the position before the end of the semester, they will be expected to repay the tuition waiver that they received as a result of their assistantship.

There will be a Graduate Advisers' Roundtable, March 5, 2008, 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

Dr. Headley informed the Council that the University is looking into the purchase of a new online catalog program. Paige Bussell will attend the March Council meeting to present the program.

Curriculum Changes are ready to be reviewed. Council members should review the changes and make comments for the Committee through the online curriculum change process by February 26, 2008. The Committee on Curriculum will present their report at the March meeting.

A report on Temporary Graduate Faculty for Spring 2008 was presented.

Nominations for the Morris Distinguished Student Awards are due from department heads by February 27, 2008. Department Distinguished Students will be recognized at their College Honor's Program and will receive a framed certificate. They will also be eligible to compete for the Morris Scholarships. The Master's Scholarship will be \$1,000 and the doctoral, \$1,500.

Lafferty Doctoral Scholarships applications are due March 31, 2008. Recipients of the Lafferty Scholarship will be awarded \$3,000 per year for two years.

Nominations for Pathways Doctoral Scholarships are due April 15, 2008. Recipients of the Pathways Scholarship(s) will receive \$2,000 a year for two years, paid tuition and fees for two years, and one trip to present research results at a professional meeting.

Applications for Summer Research Assistants Support are due March 3, 2008. Recipients of these awards will receive \$4,000 over the summer semesters for work on research projects that will contribute to work on a thesis/dissertation.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned at 4:00.

Louise Skinner
Secretary to the Graduate Council