

Graduate Council Minutes

The Graduate Council met Tuesday, January 14, 2003, in the MSC Boardroom at 3:00 p.m. with Dean Mathew Kanjirathinkal presiding. Members present were: Mr. Spencer Anderson, Dr. Bobby Carmichael, Dr. Judy Ford, Dr. Dean Ginther, Dr. Ted Hansen, Dr. Helene Halvorson, Dr. Wayne Linek, Mr. Michael Miller, Dr. Chester Robinson, Dr. R. N. Singh, Dr. Jon Travis, Dr. Janet Walker, and Dr. Dayle Yeager. Members absent were Mr. Sankaranarayanan Appadurai, Dr. Robert Baumgardner, Dr. Shawn Carraher, and Dr. Dale Funderburk.

Minutes from the October and November Council meetings were presented. Dr. Singh made the motion with a second from Dr. Travis to approve the minutes. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

Report from Committee on Graduate Faculty, Research, & Instruction

Dr. Travis reported that his committee recommends approval of Dr. Eric Aurand, Dr. Mary Ann Gaines and Dr. Jane MacDonald for Associate Graduate Faculty Status. Dr. Hansen made the motion with a second from Dr. Yeager to approve the committee's recommendation. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

Report from Committee on Curriculum

Dr. Singh reported that the committee is reviewing SHED 617 and CSCI 503 curriculum changes. Further information is being collected and a recommendation by the committee is expected at the February Council Meeting.

Update on A&M System Programs

Dr. Kanjirathinkal gave a presentation on "Pathways to the Doctorate" which included a draft of the *Texas A&M University System Graduate Faculty Guidelines*. Input was requested from all committee members regarding the proposed guidelines before January 28th. The Council discussed and requested that non-tenure track employees as well as tenure-track faculty should be included in the graduate faculty membership section of the guidelines.

The Council raised questions regarding financial aid for students involved in the Pathway Programs and suggested that this area be reviewed. Accountability issues for the Pathway Programs were discussed.

Dr. Kanjirathinkal asked that faculty members interested in serving on the new Pathway Advisory Council contact him before the end of January.

It was suggested that faculty and department heads may wish to contact their counterparts at the other System schools to discuss the potential for their programs participating in the Pathway initiative. The Ph.D. in English has been chosen by the A&M System graduate deans to pilot the process; however, Pathway is not limited to any specific program.

Dr. Singh made the motion with a second from Dr. Ginther to support the Pathway Program. The Council approved the motion.

Other Business

Dr. Linek requested information regarding the proposed changes in release time for thesis/dissertation credit. Dr. Kanjirathinkal updated the Council on the status of the proposal. Dr. Travis' committee will report on this issue with a recommendation about the number of release time credits that faculty can accumulate.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Secretary to the Graduate Council