

Graduate Council Minutes

March 8, 2005

The Graduate Council met Tuesday, March 8, 2005, in the MSC Boardroom at 3:00 p.m. with Dean Allan D. Headley presiding. Members present were: Dr. Amir Abbassi for Dr. R. N. Singh, Dr. Dick Fulkerson, Ms. Karyn Gomez, Dr. Ray Green, Dr. John Hanners, Dr. Cynthia Harr, Dr. Jeff Kopachena, Dr. Chester Robinson, Dr. Mary Beth Sampson, and Dr. Jon Travis. Members absent were: Ms. Donna Anderson, Dr. Wendell Edwards, Dr. Dale Funderburk, Mr. Michael Miller, Dr. Chris Myers, Dr. Janet Walker, and Dr. Dayle Yeager.

Dean Headley called the meeting to order.

Action Items

The minutes from the last Graduate Council, February 8, 2005, were approved.

Report from Committee on Curriculum

Dr. Robinson presented the report on additional Curriculum Changes for 2005-06. His motion to accept the report was approved by the Council. The following requests were approved:

Dept.	Course #	Title	Request
Agricultural Sciences	AG 506	Laboratory in Statistical Analysis System	New Course
Agricultural Sciences	AEC 540	Advanced Theory of Demand and Price Analysis	New Course
Agricultural Sciences	AEC 550	Market Organization and Structure	New Course
Computer Science	CSCI 581	Computer and Network Security	New Course

Report from Committee on Faculty, Research & Instruction

Dr. Travis presented the committee report on Graduate Faculty applications. Dr. Jason Davis (Secondary & Higher Education) and Dr. John Howard Smith (History) were awarded associate membership. Senior membership was awarded to Dr. Sharon Chambers (Secondary & Higher Education), Dr. Sue Espinoza (Secondary & Higher Education), Dr. Allan Headley (Chemistry), and Dr. Madeline Justice (Secondary & Higher Education). Dr. Steven Hart (Langston University) and Dr. Marie Martin (Texas A&M University Engineering Extension Service) were approved as Visiting Associate Scholars and Dr. Joseph Bouton (University of Georgia), and Dr. Arthur Goetsch (Langston University) as Visiting Senior Scholars. The motion to accept the committee report was made by Dr. Travis, seconded by Dr. Green and unanimously approved by the Council.

Discussion Item

Dr. Robinson led a discussion on *Graduate Certificate Programs*. There is a growing trend among universities to offer certificates of advanced study. While individual departments are currently offering or have offered graduate certificates, there appears to be a need to formalize the process and the documentation of the completion of such programs. Benefits to offering the programs are: will attract students to graduate education, can present a certificate as a credential for 18-hour rule needed to teach a specific discipline at junior and community colleges and will allow the university to better serve students. Concerns were: may divert students from degree programs, admissions criteria, and minimum hours needed. Council members felt that the completion of a graduate certificate program should be noted on the student's official transcript.

Dr. Green presented suggestions from the Committee on Administration on how to apply/revise the 12-hour rule for students in alternative certification programs. The Council discussed issues related to these suggestions. The committee will use their comments and suggestions in completing their final report.

Information Items

1. Dr. Headley reported on the recent Thesis/Dissertation Workshop. Many positive comments were given. The Graduate School intends to offer the workshop on a regular basis.
2. Report on *Faculty Approved to Teach Graduate Courses on an Individual Basis* was presented.
3. Dean Headley presented a report on the Council of Graduate School Conference that he recently attended.
4. Information was presented about the new TOEFL test that will start Fall 2006. The test will include sections on reading, writing, listening and speaking.
5. Dates to remember:

March 23, 2005	10:00 – 2:00	Research Day: Mike Cronan & Lucy Decker from Office of VP for Research at Texas A&M
March 28, 2005	10:30	Workshop on New GRE and Appropriate Test Score Use in

April 14, 2005

9:00 – 12:00

6. The next meeting is April 12, 2005.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

Louise Skinner
Secretary to the Graduate Council