

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES
November 14, 2006

The Graduate Council met Tuesday, November 14, 2006, in the MSC Boardroom at 3:00 p.m. with Dean Allan D. Headley presiding. Members present were: Dr. Sue Espinoza, Dr. Harry Fullwood, Dr. John Hanners, Dr. Cynthia Harr, Dr. Ben Jang, Dr. Jeff Kopachena, Mr. David Mickelson, Dr. Derek Royal, Dr. Mary Beth Sampson, Dr. Janet Walker, Ms. Adena Young, and Dr. Dayle Yeager. Members absent were: Dr. Hasan Coskun, Dr. Chris Myers, Dr. Chester Robinson, and Dr. Steven Shwiff. Dr. Jon Travis, Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies & Research was also in attendance.

The minutes from the last Graduate Council, October 10, 2006, were approved.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Jeff Kopachena presented the committee report on two issues concerning graduate assistantships. The committee recommended that the criteria for awarding an assistantship be changed to the following: admission (full or probationary) to a graduate degree program, enrollment in graduate courses, and a departmental evaluation of student qualifications and need. The Council approved the motion unanimously.

The Committee also reviewed a request to change the course load for graduate assistants. They recommended that no changes be made to the current procedure at this time.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON CURRICULUM

Dr. Hanners presented a committee report on a request to change the requirements for a Master of Music in Music with an Emphasis in Performance to include one to two recitals (Mus 552). The motion to accept the new curriculum outline was made by Dr. Hanners, seconded by Dr. Kopachena and approved unanimously by the Council.

Dr. Hanners presented the committee recommendation to approve a request to offer a 36-hour MED in Counseling with an emphasis in Student Affairs. The motion to accept the new curriculum outline was made by Dr. Fullwood, seconded by Dr. Yeager and approved by the Council.

Another item from the Curriculum Committee was a request from the Department of Counseling to change the doctoral residency requirements for the PHD in Counseling. Mr. Mickelson made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Ms. Young and unanimously approved by the Council.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON FACULTY, RESEARCH & INSTRUCTION

Dr. Espinoza presented the committee report to revise procedure 12.04.99.RO.02 Graduate Faculty Membership to change requirement #3 for senior membership to read as follows: a minimum of three years of full-time university assignment, which includes teaching graduate courses (two or more different courses or the same course two or more times), and, if applicable, service on theses or dissertation committees. The motion to approve was made by Dr. Kopachena and seconded by Dr. Royal. A discussion followed and a concern was voiced that this would allow a faculty member who has never served on a dissertation committee to chair a dissertation. The proposed change was approved by the Council by a vote of 11 *for* and 1 *abstention*.

Information Items

Dr. Headley gave a report on the Presidential Retreat that was held to discuss ways to improve different aspects of the university. The primary goal is to increase enrollment to 10,000 by Fall 2009. Some options for graduate level recruitment would be to look to industry and to encourage alumni to work on graduate degrees.

Dr. Travis reviewed the recruitment plan implemented in 2005-06 and activities that took place. He discussed the new incentives for 2006-07.

Dr. Travis presented information from the Higher Education Accountability System. A&M-Commerce had the highest graduation rate in the state for doctoral programs based on a 1995 cohort.

The Summer Temporary Graduate Faculty report was distributed.

Discussion Items

Dr. Headley distributed information from the 2006 CGS International Graduate Admissions Survey concerning policies regarding three-year degrees and asked that council members begin to review relevant information on the issue.

Next Meeting: December 12, 2006, 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Louise Skinner
Secretary to the Graduate Council