

Graduate Council Minutes November 8, 2005

The Graduate Council met Tuesday, November 8, 2005, in the MSC Boardroom at 3:00 p.m. with Dean Allan D. Headley presiding. Members present were: Mr. Gagandeep Bhatia, Dr. Hasan Coskun, Dr. Wendell Edwards, Dr. Sue Espinoza, Mr. Alan Francis, Dr. Dick Fulkerson, Dr. Ray Green, Dr. John Hanners, Dr. Cynthia Harr, Dr. Ben Jang, Dr. Jeff Kopachena, Dr. Chris Myers, Dr. Chester Robinson, and Dr. Mary Beth Sampson. Members absent were: Dr. Steven Shwiff, Dr. Janet Walker, and Dr. Dayle Yeager. Dr. Jon Travis, Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies & Research was also in attendance.

Dean Headley called the meeting to order.

Action Items

The minutes from the last Graduate Council, October 11, 2005, were approved.

Dean Headley led a discussion on how the Graduate Council could better assist in the admissions process for graduate programs. After a lengthy discussion, the motion was made by Dr. Green and seconded by Dr. Robinson to have Graduate Council review the admission and pre-admission advising processes for the doctoral programs. The information collected will be reviewed by committee and feedback provided to each program. The Graduate Council unanimously approved.

Dr. Travis presented a request from a student displaced by Hurricane Katrina to transfer to A&M-Commerce twenty-one hours of a 48-hour degree program. The Department also requested approval. The motion to approve the request was made by Dr. Robinson and seconded by Dr. Fulkerson. The Graduate Council approved the request.

Report from Committee on Faculty, Research & Instruction

Dr. Fulkerson presented the committee report on graduate faculty applications. The following faculty were approved by the Council for graduate faculty membership:

Associate Status (Three-Year)

Dr. Susan Stewart	PhD	Literature & Languages
Dr. Susan Szabo	EdD	Elementary Education
Dr. Lee Waller	PhD	Secondary & Higher Education

Associate Status

Dr. John Humphreys	DBA	Business Administration
Dr. Sandra Kimbrough	PhD	Health & Human Performance
Dr. Karen Roggenkamp	PhD	Literature & Languages
Dr. Nikolay Sirakov	PhD	Mathematics and Computer Science
Dr. William Witwer	DMA	Music

Senior Status

Dr. Ray Green	PhD	Psychology & Special Education
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Dr. Fulkerson requested that a change be made to the application to request the applicant to submit a copy of at least one publication.

Dr. Fulkerson presented a committee report on the request from Literature and Languages to change their foreign language requirement for the doctoral degree. The motion to change the requirement from 18 to 12 hours was made by Dr. Fulkerson, seconded by Dr. Green, and unanimously approved by the Council.

Information Items

An audio presentation (prepared by Joe Shipman) on the new electronic *Curriculum Change Process* was presented to the Council. Lisa Robinson and Reno Alex were available for questions.

Dean Headley presented the web application for System Graduate Faculty Membership and asked Graduate Council members to encourage their colleagues to apply.

Dean Headley reported on four successful activities involving A&M-Commerce students, and/or faculty:

Dr. Linda Morales in collaboration with the Office of Graduate Studies & Research sponsored the On-Campus Student Research Symposium Poster Session, October 26th. Research posters by 18 graduate and undergraduate students were presented. The student posters represented research from Physics, Chemistry, Secondary & Higher Education, Agricultural Sciences, Computer Science, Literature & Languages, and Psychology & Special Education.

Eleven graduate and undergraduate students participated in the A&M System Pathways Student Research Symposium in Kingsville on November 5-6. Disciplines represented by student research were Agricultural Sciences, Psychology, Computer Science, and Secondary & Higher Education. Ms. Fedora Galasso, undergraduate student from Psychology & Special Education, won third place in the Social Sciences and Humanities category.

Junior Faculty Workshop, sponsored by the A&M University System brought together faculty from system institutions to learn more about research and educational partnerships among system institutions.

Graduate Advisor Roundtables were conducted on-campus and at the Metroplex Center in Mesquite. Some of the items discussed were recruitment, holistic admission requirements, the use of GRE scores, and the implementation of BANNER. Faculty advisors offered suggestions on how to improve graduate education at A&M-Commerce.

Next Meeting: December 13, 2005 (Since the next scheduled meeting conflicts with the President's Christmas Reception, it may be moved to an earlier time.)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Louise Skinner
Secretary to the Graduate Council