

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

November 13, 2007

The Graduate Council met Tuesday, November 13, 2007, in the MSC Boardroom at 3:00 p.m. with Dean Allan D. Headley presiding. Members present were: Dr. Ken Alford, Dr. Harry Fullwood, Dr. John Hanners, Dr. Ben Jang, Dr. Jeff Kopachena, Ms. Elaine Lin, Mr. Gideon Mazambani, Dr. Linda Openshaw, Dr. Derek Royal, Dr. Mary Beth Sampson, and Dr. Dayle Yeager. Members absent were: Dr. Hasan Coskun, Dr. Chris Myers, Dr. Chester Robinson, Dr. Steven Shwiff, and Dr. Janet Walker. Dr. Jon Travis, Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies and Research was also in attendance.

The minutes from the last Graduate Council, October 9, 2007, were approved with changes.

Dr. Headley informed the Council that the graduate certificate for Biological & Environmental Sciences was approved by e-vote this summer.

Committee on Curriculum

Dr. John Hanners presented the committee report on a procedure regarding requirements for a second master's degree. The Council unanimously approved the report with changes. The following requirements will be forwarded to Deans Council and President's Advisory Council for approval.

1. Students holding a master's degree from a regionally-accredited graduate institution in the United States may apply certain courses that were part of a previously earned graduate degree towards a second master's degree.
2. Such courses must be approved by the department head, the dean of the appropriate college, and the Graduate Dean.
3. Courses from previous degrees cannot be more than six years old at the time the second master's degree is conferred.
4. No more than 1/3 of the coursework for the second master's degree can be from a previously earned degree.
5. Previous Thesis or Research Literature and Techniques courses, or their equivalent, cannot be applied. All remaining courses applied to satisfy the requirements for the second master's degree must be Texas A&M University-Commerce courses.
6. The second master's degree will be subject to the general regulations governing master's degrees as outlined in 11.04.99.RO.15 "Requirements for the Master's Degree" except as stated above.

Committee on Administration

Dr. Mary Beth Sampson presented the committee report on the review of admissions and preadmissions advising processes for the doctoral programs. The Council voted unanimously that this should be included in the Graduate Program review process. Since the program review has already been carried out for Counseling, English and Psychology degree programs, the Council will review them. Programs in Educational Administration, SCI-Elementary Education, and SCI-Higher Education will be reviewed as part of their graduate program review.

Graduate Enrollment Updates

Dr. Mary Hendrix addressed the Council concerning graduate enrollment and recruitment. She indicated that fall enrollment included 43% graduate students. She expects this trend to continue. She felt that

the Graduate Council decision to offer graduate certificates and the Texas requirement that public school teachers have 18 hours of graduate coursework in their teaching field will help increase our graduate enrollment. Council members had questions/comments about on-line courses, tenure/promotion, and personalizing the Metroplex Center.

Discussion Items

Dr. Travis informed the Council of a meeting with UNT and 26 university presidents and vice presidents from the Rajabhat University System in Thailand. UNT has asked that we join them in providing doctoral programs for faculty at these universities in order to respond to Thailand's mandate to have 30 % of their faculty with doctoral degrees. It is expected that most of the interest will be in two programs at A&M-Commerce: English and SCI-Higher Education.

Dr. Travis led a discussion on the associate 3-year membership.

Information Items

Report on Pathways Student Research Symposium at Tarleton State University

Evgeniya Agaeva, master's student, received 2nd place in Life Science

Anna Vladimirova, undergraduate student, received 2nd place in Physical Science.

Pathways Student Research Symposium and System Junior Faculty Workshop on the A&M-Commerce campus (November 7, 8, 2008)

Lafferty Doctoral Scholarships (application deadline November 26, 2007)

Pathways to the Doctorate Fellowship (application deadline April 15, 2008)

ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned at 4:20.

Louise Skinner

Secretary to the Graduate Council