

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

The Graduate Council met Tuesday, September 18, 2001, in the MSC Boardroom at 3:00 p.m. with Dean Mathew Kanjirathinkal presiding. Members present were: Dr. Linda Ball for Dr. Chester Robinson, Dr. Robert Baumgardner, Dr. Judy Ford, Dr. Harry Fullwood for Dr. Dean Ginther, Dr. Ted Hansen, Dr. Jeff Kopachena, Dr. Wayne Linek, Dr. Alma Mintu-Wimsatt, Ms. Tonya Scott, Dr. Robert Seay, Dr. Steve Shwiff, Dr. Jon Travis, Ms. Susan Tremor, Dr. Vance Underhill, Dr. Tom Ward and Dr. Dayle Yeager. Member absent was Dr. Bobby Carmichael.

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dr. Kanjirathinkal provided a list of Council members for 2001-2002. New members are Dr. Bobby Carmichael (Accounting), Dr. Judy Ford (History), and Dr. Chester Robinson (Counseling). Student representatives for 2001-2002 are Susan Tremor (Master's Student Representative) and Tonya Scott (Doctoral Student Representative).

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Dr. Dayle Yeager nominated Dr. Ted Hansen as Vice-Chair. There were no other nominations and Dr. Hansen was elected unanimously.

ROLE & RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

Dr. Kanjirathinkal discussed with the Council their roles and responsibilities as members of the Graduate Council. There are two controlling documents each member should keep in mind in making deliberations: Southern Association guidelines and A&M-Commerce procedures.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Committee Chairs, Dr. Dayle Yeager (Administration), Dr. Jeff Kopachena (Curriculum) and Dr. Jon Travis (Graduate Faculty, Research & Instruction) submitted a list of committee members to serve on their respective standing committee. The Committee on Committees worked with Dr. Kanjirathinkal to compile the lists that keep the balance of membership among the colleges. These lists were approved by vote of the Graduate Council.

CHARGES TO THE COMMITTEES

Dr. Kanjirathinkal discussed some of the issues that the committees will be addressing this academic year. He gave written charges to the committee chairs. To prepare for the site visit from Southern Association in 2003, the Graduate Council will review A&M-Commerce procedures in light of SACS guidelines and best practices. Beyond the formal charges, committees are free to examine any other graduate education issue deemed appropriate. Agenda items should be submitted through the Graduate School.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS FROM THE GRADUATE DEAN

Dr. Kanjirathinkal will formulate a mission statement for the Graduate School. He welcomes suggestions from Graduate Council members. He will use this mission statement as part of the strategic planning process.

Dr. Kanjirathinkal announced the new Doctoral Dissertation Awards supported by the Development Office. One award of \$1,250 will be given to a graduating doctoral student selected through a competitive process at the Doctoral Luncheon held each semester.

Graduate Council members are invited to attend the Plenary Session of the Federation Fall Seminar on October 5, 2001. Dr. Peter Syverson, Vice President for Research at the Council of Graduate Schools will be the keynote speaker. Dr. Jody Nyquist from the University of Washington will be the luncheon speaker. Information from Dr. Nyquist's web page on "Re-envisioning the Ph.d." was distributed.

Dr. Kanjirathinkal encouraged Graduate Council members to participate via web cast, a yearlong discussion on "Critical Issues in Graduate Education" offered by the University of Missouri. Information on this seminar was also distributed.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Louise Skinner
Secretary to the Graduate Council