

**Graduate Council Minutes
April 7, 2009**

Present: Lawrence Anderson, Jamie Barlowe, Barbaranne Benjamin, Jeanne Brockmyer, Frank Calzonetti, Dwayne Demedio, Laurie Dinnebeil, Max Funk, Hans Gottgens, Scott Heckathorn, Wayne Hoss, Dong-Shik Kim, Patricia Komuniecki, Anand Kunnathur, Sara Lundquist, Sakui Malakpa, Anastasia Mirzoyants (GSA), Gary Moore, Azadebh Parvin, Kelly Phillilps, Susan Pocotte, Ram Rachamadugu, Patricia Relue, Randall Ruch, Kathleen Salyers, Dorothea Sawicki, Alice Skeens, Mark Templin, Amy Thompson, Hermann Von Grafenstein, Frederick Williams

Absent: Michael Bisesi, John Gaboury, Benjamin Pryor, Krishna Shenai, James Trempe

Excused: Mohamed Hefzy, Ruth Hottell, Barbara Kopp Miller, Mylo Jennings, Eric Longsdorf, Barbara Schneider, Dianne Smolen

Call to Order and Roll and Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the January 20, 2009, and March 3, 2009, Graduate Council meetings were approved.

Report of the Executive Committee of the Graduate Council and the Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs and Dean of the College of Graduate Studies

Marshals for Graduation

Dr. Relue reminded the Council that marshals are still need for graduation, in particular, a marshal and reader for the afternoon ceremony.

Seminar Announcements on COGS Website

Dr. Relue suggested the College of Graduate Studies website serve as a central location for posting links to seminar announcements.

Budget Updates

Regarding the FY10 budget, Dr. Komuniecki reported that although no official word has been received she remains cautiously optimistic.

Graduate Scholarships and Awards Committee to Convene

Dr. Komuniecki announced the COGS received notification from the UT Foundation that funding is available and we solicited applications for the following fellowships and awards administered by the COGS:

- University Fellowship
(2 available for 2009-2010). Received eight applications.
- Robert R. Buell Memorial Achievement Award
(1 award available, average amount of \$1,000.) Two applications received.
- Helen M. Fields Memorial Achievement Award
(1 award available, average amount \$350 to \$500). Three applications received.
- Robert N. Whiteford Memorial Scholarship
(1 award available, average amount \$300 to \$400). Five applications received.

College of Graduate Studies Updates

Dr. Komuniecki provided a number of updates from the College of Graduate Studies:

- COGS Student Forms
In order to harmonize the graduate forms of the Main Campus and Health Science Campus, numerous forms have been updated (i.e., Plan of Study and Readmission) and are available on the COGS website. All faculty should check the website to view the forms.
- Degree Audit
COGS will no longer need to mail letters to students, but will contact them by e-mail beginning with summer semester 2009. This enhanced process saves time and paper.
- MAGS meetings:
Dr. Komuniecki plans to participate in MAGS meetings to network with 120 deans, associate deans, VP's, whose focus is on graduate issues.
- Dr. Michael Bisesi has announced his resignation from UT to accept an opportunity at Ohio State University as Associate Dean in the College of Public Health. We will seek to replace him with an Associate Dean for Health Service Programs at .05 FTE. Pending budget decisions, we hope for an Associate Dean on the Main Campus.

Information and Discussion Items

Status Update of Ad hoc Committee Review of Standards for Theses and Dissertation Style

Formatting

Dr. Dowd reported that the committee has continued its work in drafting a handbook to provide graduate students with a set of standards for the formatting of their theses and dissertations. He is hopeful the draft form will be completed in time for the next Graduate Council meeting, April 21, 2009.

Election of Officers Potentially to Occur at the April 21st meeting of the Graduate Council

Dr. Relue stated that since she will be out of town during the last Council meeting of this academic year, May 5, 2009, that as Council Chair, she would like to facilitate election of officers to Council at the next meeting, April 21st if possible.

Status Update on Academic Standings Committee Review of Academic Standards for Graduate Students

Dr. Max Funk reported that the Academic Standings Committee has continued to meet regularly and has addressed a number of key issues and that the ASC has received feedback from the Graduate Faculty in response to the draft documentation. The committee hoped to have its recommendation ready for the next Graduate Council, April 21, 2009.

Standing Committee Reports

Report of the Curriculum Committee

Dr. Lawrence Anderson, Curriculum Committee chair, presented the recommendations of the Graduate Curriculum Committee. Council approved all unanimously except for the program modification in Economics, Public Administration, and Geography and Planning which was approved 17 in favor and 8 against. The modification provides the same opportunity provided to undergraduate engineering students through the "Early Admission in Engineering" program, BS/MS program. Students currently enrolled in the B.A. program would utilize their ability to enroll in 9 credits hours of graduate coursework and apply those courses and credit hours to their B.A. degree requirements and then be able to apply those same courses and credit hours to their M.A. degree requirements. Dr. Komuniecki commented that she would follow up with RACGS/OBOR guidelines to ensure that this practice is permitted.

NEW COURSE PROPOSALS

EDU	FOED	EDP:6150	Cultural Perspectives in Learning and Development	3
ARS	EEES	EEES:5400	Environmental Impacts of Alternative Energy	3
EDU	ECPS	SPED:5600	Advanced Professional Reflective Seminar	3
EDU	FOED	TSOC:6150/8150	Cultural Perspectives in Learning and Development	3

COURSE MODIFICATIONS

ARS	ENGL	ENGL:5400	British Literature: The Medieval Period	3
HSHS	SOCW	SOCW:5910	Foundation Field Experience and Integrative Seminar II	2
HSHS	SOCW	SOCW:6900	Advanced Field Experience and Integrative Seminar I	5
HSHS	SOCW	SOCW:6910	Advanced Field Experience and Integrative Seminar II	5

NEW PROGRAMS

EDU	CI	Literacy Specialist Certificate
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PROGRAM MODIFICATIONS

ARS	ECON	Economics
ARS	GEPL	Geography and Planning
ARS	POLS	Political Science and Public Administration

Organizational Reports**Report of the Graduate Student Association**

Ms. Anastasia Mirzoyants, President of the Graduate Student Association (GSA), reported they were spending much of their time preparing for the 2nd Annual Graduate Research Symposium on April 10th. There were about 40 students who applied to participate in the symposium. There will be eight different sessions for student presentations. The keynote speaker is expected to present right before the lunch and will be followed by a one-hour poster session. The GSA has asked Graduate Council members to serve as judges for the symposium. In addition, the GSA has completed the election of its officers and now has three new officers. They are scheduled to be introduced to graduate students during the Symposium Awards Dinner on April 10th and to the Graduate Council during its last meeting on April 21st. On March 26th, the GSA sponsored a bowling tournament for all UT graduate students. Among the 30 students in attendance, 30% were from the Health Science Campus, 20% Law School representatives, and the remainder from Main Campus. Considering the success of the event, the GSA will attempt to add another bowling evening to the list of social events for future semesters.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business the Council adjourned at 1:50 p.m.