

**Graduate Council Minutes
February 24, 2015
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
Main Campus, Student Union, Room 2582**

Present: Brian Ashburner, Ainsworth Bailey, Debra Boardley, Joseph Dake, Michael Dowd, Mary Ellen Edwards, Brian Fink, Rodney Gabel, April Gardner, David Giovannucci, Hans Gottgens, Eric Prichard for GSA, Susanna Hapgood, Mohamed Samir Hefzy, Ruth Hottell, David Jex, Richard Johnson, Virginia Keil, Junghwan Kim, Jon Kirchhoff, Patricia Komuniecki, Anand Kunnathur, Willie McKether, William Messer, Kelly Phillips, Susan Pocotte, Sonmez Sahutoglu, Amal Said, Diane Salvador, Youssef Sari, Constance Schall, Barry Scheuermann, Joseph Schmidt, Rebecca Schneider, Diana Shvydka, Cynthia Smas, Susan Sochacki, Pamela Stover, Viranga Tillekeratne, Jerry Van Hoy, Lois Ventura, Stan Westjohn, Kandace Williams

Excused: Peter Andreana, Marcia McInerney, Holly Monsos, Ron Opp

Absent: Ali Fatemi, Dwight Haase, Kenneth Kilbert

Guest: Ms. Rhonda Wingfield, Director of Financial Planning, Analysis and Budget
Interim CEO, UT Innovation Enterprises (Rocket Innovations)

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Approval of Minutes

The meeting was called to order and the roll called. The Minutes of the January 27, 2015 meeting were approved.

The agenda was reordered to accommodate the schedule of the guest speaker.

Executive Reports

Report of the Executive Committee of the Graduate Council

Dr. Rebecca Schneider, Graduate Council (GC) Vice Chair, announced that Ms. Rhonda Wingfield, Director of Financial Planning, Analysis and Budget and Interim CEO of UT Innovation Enterprises (Rocket Innovations) will share today with GC the FY 2011-FY-2015 Budget Comparison and Five Year Projection. The Vice Chair commented that in order to participate as partners in shared governance it is necessary to understand how the university works from a financial perspective and, as graduate faculty in particular, it is important for us to notice aspects that might impact graduate education. At the March 24, 2015 GC meeting, Ms. Heather Huntley, Director of University Accreditation and Program Review, will speak about Program Review. The GC Program Review Committee will have a new process consistent with the University Program Review process, and that will be outlined in the revised Bylaws to be presented to GC very soon. So, Ms. Huntley's presentation should be very helpful to us in defining our role in the university process. The Annual Meeting of the Graduate Faculty is scheduled for March 19, 2015. The Vice Chair reminded GC of the upcoming GC meeting schedule: March 24, April 7 and April 21, with a final meeting on May 5, 2015. Items for discussion at these meetings will include the GC Bylaws (a second reading and a vote), including, but not limited to, curricular matters (approving curriculum proposals in early April and the process for approving the scope of work for the Graduate Council Executive Committee (GCEC) during the summer). A GC member suggested that a draft of the Bylaws be sent out to GC members well in advance of the meeting discussion. The GCEC members,

along with Faculty Senate Executive Committee members, have been invited to attend lunch with each of the presidential candidates. To date, this group has met with Dr. Michele Wheatley and Dr. Christopher Howard. They will meet Dr. Sharon Gaber this Thursday. These lunches have given GCEC an opportunity to interact with each candidate and ask questions about graduate education and research from a faculty viewpoint.

Information and Discussion Items

FY 2011-FT 2015 Budget Comparison and 5 Year Projection

Ms. Rhonda Wingfield, Director of Financial Planning, Analysis and Budget and Interim CEO, UT Innovation Enterprises (Rocket Innovations), presented the GC with an FY 2011-FT 2015 Budget Comparison and Five Year Projection. Ms. Wingfield began her presentation with an FY 2011-FT 2015 historical look back which illustrated the decline in enrollment, decline in state subsidy, decline in sales and service revenue, and rise in healthcare/benefit costs while depicting the financial mitigation by management. She noted that she had also given this presentation to the UT Board of Trustees, the Academic Leadership Team, and Faculty Senate. She reminded GC to keep in mind that the projected future budget targets and assumptions are 'fluid' and may not ultimately reflect the way the final future budgets will actually look. She then reported on the 5-year budget forecast: budget comparisons, - budget development, and shared the basic budget assumptions. Her presentation can be found on the GC website at:

http://www.utoledo.edu/graduate/facultystaff/gradcouncil/minutesandagendas2014_2015.html.

Executive Reports

Report of the Graduate Student Association (GSA)

Mr. Eric Prichard, Acting Vice President of GSA, reported that the Midwest Graduate Research Symposium (MGRS) is moving along nicely and over 70 students have signed up to participate. The guest speakers for the professional development panel are almost finalized and the panel topic is 'Preparation for the Job Market'. The GSA Ambassador Program sent the first ambassador to Albion College to speak with undergraduate students about UT graduate programs and several other student ambassadors are scheduled to visit their undergraduate colleges this spring. The GSA is working with COGS Associate Dean Dr. Susan Pocotte to revise the GSA Bylaws.

Report of the Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs and Dean of the College of Graduate Studies (COGS)

Dean Komuniecki provided the following updates:

- *Reduction of the number of credit hours required for Full Time Graduate Student status*
Dean Komuniecki was pleased to report that after extensive conversations with the Interim Provost and other members of the senior leadership, COGS has been given approval to move forward with the new policy establishing 9 credit hours (not 12) as the full-time status for graduate students at UT, with a proposed beginning date for Fall 2015. As discussed at previous GC meetings, this will bring UT into alignment with other universities in the USO, with federal government requirements for international students, and with NCAA standards for graduate students who are also athletes. Going forward, graduate students should carefully review the courses needed for their program of study and register accordingly. For example, if a master's program requires 30 credit hours, master's students would be expected to graduate with 30 hours (not 45, 55, or more!). This shift is a student-centered change that should help UT be more competitive with other USO institutions in attracting students. Fee-paying students will

now be able to qualify for Federal Financial Aid at 9 hours, then registering and paying for fewer credit hours, thus incurring less student loan debt and paying fewer fees. The “free zone” platform remains 12-15 credit hours for the coming year. Summer full-time will drop from 9 hours to 6 hours. Dean Komuniecki asked the faculty to make certain that programs are in line with the national norms. The new Full Time Graduate Student Status policy will be posted for the 30-day comment period this week.

This news was received with applause from the GC and the Dean then responded to a number of questions from the membership. As she concluded, she reminded the GC that in spring 2014 Council had enthusiastically supported her efforts to try to get that plan implemented for fall of 2014, and she appreciated their continued support for the implementation for fall 2015.

Due to time constraints, Dean Komuniecki was unable to present additional information from her planned report regarding several topics: the \$1M Presidential Graduate Scholarship Incentive Program, the FY16 stipend and tuition scholarship budgets for the academic colleges, and the revision to the proposed differential tuition for 5 graduate programs with high demand as outlined at last months’ GC meeting.

Standing Committee Reports

Constitution and Bylaws Committee

None.

Curriculum Committee

Dr. John Plenefisch, Chair of the Graduate Council Curriculum Committee (GCCC), reported the GCCC reviewed and submitted the following proposals for approval by the GC:

New Program Proposal

College	Department	Program	Summary of change
MD	Public Health and Preventive Medicine	Certificate in Disaster Medical Education	12 credit certificate consisting of the following 4 existing courses: PUBH 6640/8640, PUBH 6500/8500, PUBH 5260, PUBH 6560/8560.

GC passed The New Program Proposal unanimously.

Program Revision Request

College	Department	Program	Summary of change
PH	Pharmacology	Ph.D. in Experimental Therapeutics	PHCL 5500/7500 to be an alternative course to MBC 6190/8190 in the degree. No change in the program credit hours.

PH	Pharmacology	Ph.D. in Experimental Therapeutics	MBC 6550/8550 (Biochemistry 4) dropped as required course, will remain an elective in the program.
PH	Pharmacy Practice	MS in Health Outcomes and Socioeconomic Outcomes	New Clinical Science track in the existing MS program. Requires fewer Hours for completion than existing tracks.

GC passed the Pharmacology Program Revision Requests unanimously.

GC asked the GCCC to obtain more information from the Department of Pharmacy Practice; their current request indicated that there would be fewer credit hours for this proposed to new “track”; but all tracks in the same degree must total the same number of credit hours to be in compliance with OBR regulations.

New Course Proposals

College	Department	Course Name	Course Number	Brief Course Description
MD	Public Health and Preventative Medicine	Molecular Epidemiology	PUBH 8130	Theory and practice of epidemiological study using molecular genomic techniques.
MD	Public Health and Preventative Medicine	Public Health and Aging	PUBH 8330	Public health and aging issue in contemporary society.

GC requested that the GCCC obtain additional information for the New Course Proposals in order to clarify clear distinctions of the requirements between the 6130/6330 and 8130/8330 levels.

Existing Course Modifications

College	Department	Course Name	Course Number	Change in course
MD	PA Studies/HDS	Scientific and Clinical Foundations for Human Organ & Tissue Donation and Transplantation	HDSC 5210	Change credits from 8 to 6, more appropriate to Course Content.

MD	PA Studies/HDS	Fundamental Concepts and Clinical Practicum I	HDSC 5110	Change credits from 4 to 3, more appropriate to Course Content.
MD	PA Studies/HDS	Scholarly Project	HDSC 5020	Change credits from 6 to 3, more appropriate to Course Content, drop PUBH 6000 (Biostatistics) as a co- requisite.

The GC requested that the PA Studies/HDS department prepare the required Program Revision Request paperwork required for the above changes (if approved this would result in 6 fewer credit hours for the degree) and submit all paperwork together.

Regarding old business, Dr. John Plenefisch, GCCC Chair, also reported that the GCCC had had additional discussions with the Diversity Certificate proposer as well as other faculty and administrators (from the Judith Herb College of Education, College of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences, and the College of Social Justice and Human Service) interested in the Certificate. The GCCC requested additional documentation be provided to their committee and, once that is obtained, the Diversity Certificate will be submitted to the GC for approval.

Membership Committee

None.

Old Business

A GC member requested that the current revision of the Bylaws be sent out as soon as possible to provide time for review before the second reading and possible vote at the next GC meeting. The Dean repeated the information that had been mentioned earlier in the meeting when the member was out of room that the Bylaws Committee was scheduled to meet Thursday, February 26, and that the revised draft of the Bylaws will be distributed to the GC next week.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Council adjourned at 2:05 p.m.