

**Graduate Council Minutes  
September 18, 2007**

***Call to Order, Roll, Approval of Minutes***

**Present:** Linda Alvarado (GS), Jamie Barlowe, Donald Beeman, Barbaranne Benjamin, Frank Calzonetti, Maria Coleman, Michael Dowd, Jeanne Funk, Mohamed Hefzy, Ruth Hottell, Joan Kaderavek, Patricia Komuniecki, Sara Lundquist, Marietta Morrissey, Sam Okoroafo, Walter Olson, Danny Pincivero, Patricia Relue, Dale Snauwaert, Constantine Theodosiou, Frederick Williams, Gregory Stone

**Excused:** Michael Bisesi, Karen Bjorkman, Hans Gottgens, Wayne Hoss, Susan Martyn

**Unexcused:** John Gaboury (1), Morris Jenkins (1)

The Minutes of September 4, 2007, meeting were approved.

***Report of the Executive Committee of the Graduate Council and the Dean of the Graduate School***

Dr. Dowd reported that the Executive Committee of the Graduate Council met with Vice President Calzonetti to discuss issues he is going to talk about today. It is an opportunity to share some of the different functions of his office.

Dr. Theodosiou gave an update of activities within the College of Graduate Studies. In meeting with the Associate Deans in charge of graduate programs in the colleges, he informed them of a recruitment trip to China in October and asked them to include promotional materials. They were also asked for their input in benchmarking comparable institutions with Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. He stated that the process of converting admissions to Banner is underway, which also requires knowledge of report writing through Access and Crystal Reports. We are discussing ways to improve the application process on the Main and Health Science Campuses. We accept written and electronic applications, which still need to be printed, scanned and uploaded. The graduate office on the Health Science Campus is not currently using imaging, but we are in the process of optimizing that function with them as we look to utilize as much computerization of the process as possible. However, the imaging is not completely compatible with Banner.

Dr. Hottell asked if there will be workshops for Banner to which Dr. Theodosiou responded that current training is being conducted for those staff actually entering data and should be available campus-wide at a later date.

***Information and Discussion Items***

**Discussion with Professor Frank Calzonetti, Vice President for Research Development**

Dr. Calzonetti reported that since the merger the Office of Research area was reviewed by a workgroup and reorganized with responsibilities divided between the campuses.

Dr. Wilkerson has oversight of the research grant proposals and Dr. Calzonetti oversees opportunities for funding, technology transfer, incubation and URAF.

There is a lot of activity with the State and a congressional delegation. He stated that reporting to him are a couple of institutes including Intermodal and Urban Affairs. When he came to UT about five years ago, he was asked what can we do to be better and that was to establish areas of research excellence. The area most recognized domestically and internationally is alternative energy. Newsweek will be here next week to talk about it. We have embraced the culture of being a research university. Provost Gold has been agreeable in getting that message to faculty. The sponsored research target of \$100 million in five years is attainable. Although the NIH budget has been flat there is a lot of competition for NIH dollars, and they are expected to award about 10,000 new grants. There is tremendous opportunity, particularly in engineering, the natural sciences and STEM, and education at all levels from K-12 to undergraduate and graduate education. Expect tremendous growth in engineering, health and human services, pharmacy and arts and sciences in the natural sciences. In the research focus areas there is an emphasis toward research that has commercial outcomes. City and county offices are looking at the University as a way to transform their economies. A lot of funding is focused to the areas of commercialization and job creation. The President is also very aware of this.

Many of you are aware there is a hiring plan out there. We had an experience with 10x10 with a faculty line with research focus areas. Those areas no longer formally exist. We do have areas identical in the strategic directions document. The President has said we can invest in a few areas with a narrower and deeper focus. You will be getting some guidelines from the Provost. On the technology side, we will be hiring two more people in licensing and technical transfer and spin-off companies are very important to us. People in the community expect spin-off companies to transform the economy. With the research at \$63 million to build our economy we have to build up our research and seek federal funding which we can do both of at the same time. Universities are encouraging spin-off companies. We have to be careful to watch management issues to keep it separate from the academic programs and their work with a spin-off company.

Dr. Dowd added that developing patents involves a significant amount of resources for which approximately four students in the arts and humanities are needed to support one student in STEM. He asked if the University is committed to go in this direction with the needed resources. Dr. Calzonetti replied that his instructions to Dan Kory are that we try to be self-sufficient. Our distribution is 50% back to the faculty. However, there are other areas we could use for base budget funding. You can get a patent and get funding and then get it to the scale but the prototype may not be there. We have talked to the President about that. We have tremendous advantage in DOD from Marcy Kaptur.

Dr. Morrissey asked if the hiring proposal will reward areas that have proven themselves with external funding and whether others should spend their time putting together a cluster area that is not an area of significant sponsored research. Dr. Calzonetti responded by saying that would need to be addressed by Provost Haggett. The Strategic Directions document also talks about emphasis on inter-disciplinary collaboration. People understand having a livable community includes the arts. It is part of community development.

Dr. Theodosiou added that support comes in three forms: faculty, students and start-up packages/facilities. To move support from the non-STEM to STEM, we have to compete to get something back.

The emphasis for non-STEM is to prepare the graduate faculty for the viability of those programs. Any new funding from the State would go toward STEM. Dr. Dowd added that not supporting graduate education in other areas would be short-sighted.

Drs. Morrissey and Theodosiou agreed that other growth areas also help pay the bills and in order to produce a larger number of degrees you have to grow in all divisions. Dr. Snauwaert stated that graduate programs require graduate students and without graduate assistants we lose a lot of students. Dr. Theodosiou said he would like to see more tuition scholarships.

### ***Organizational Reports***

#### **Graduate Student Association**

Ms. Linda Alvarado reported the first GSA meeting was held on September 19, 2007, at 3:00 p.m. in Student Union Room 2591. Conference reimbursements will still be given out each semester (Fall, Spring and Summer), yet graduate students wanting to receive funds must attend meetings or sit on a GSA committee to be eligible for funds. Funds are given out in the amounts of \$175 for presenting and \$75 for attending a conference.

#### ***Old Business***

None.

#### ***New Business***

None.

#### ***Adjournment***

There being no further business, the Council adjourned at 1:44 p.m.