



Office of Research & Graduate Studies

Approved  
2/24/11  
2:00PM  
NRC 2010

# Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

**Council Members Present:** JoAnn Canales, Luis Cifuentes, Jim Gibeaut, Miguel Moreno, Thomas Naehr, Patricia Olenick, Marvarene Oliver, Anita Reed, Scott Sherman, Robert Smith, Corinne Valadez, Virginia Wheelless

**Council Members Absent:** Mary Bantell, Hongyu Guo, Chuck Etheridge, Eve Layman, Jim Lee

**Council Ex-Officio Present:** Sherrye Garrett, Sarah Sutton

---

## I. Approval of Minutes from 2/10/11

**Motion:** To approve the minutes as presented

**Moved:** Virginia Wheelless

**Second:** Corinne Valadez

Unanimous approval:

## II. Committee Reports

A. Curriculum Committee - The recommendations shared by Marvarene Oliver and listed below were approved as amended (see annotations).

The Curriculum Committee met February 3, 2011 to consider submission of six syllabi.

**Two ~~syllabi~~ courses were approved, as indicated below.**

ACCT 5370 Integrative Seminar in Accounting  
Committee Action: Approve

COMM 5335 Seminar in Crisis Communication

**Four courses were submitted for review but are seminar courses and while they may need college approval, do not need Graduate Council Approval**

COMM 5345 ~~Perspectives in Public Relations~~ Seminar in New Media

COMM 5390 Conflict Analysis & Resolution

COMM 5390 Media Ethics

COMM 5394 Seminar in Communications

**One course was reviewed which will be reconsidered upon revision from the college.**

COMM 5313 Seminar in Family Communication

**Program Course Description Changes:** These were submitted to the Curriculum Committee but are decisions for the CLA committee as they do not reflect substantive changes according to the program coordinator.

COMM 5395 Thesis

Committee Action: Approve program change. Change language in course description to note that the course may be repeated to meet the 6 SCH course requirement.

COMM 5340 Perspectives in Public Relations

COMM 5307 Communication and Organizations

Discussion ensued regarding the definition of seminar for purposes of what gets reviewed by Graduate Council and the use of different forms by the university and the colleges for requesting new courses. Both topics will be revisited at a later date.

## **B. Graduate Faculty Committee**

Scott Sherman reported on behalf of the committee and recommended Elizabeth Reese be approved as Adjunct Graduate Faculty in the College of Liberal Arts. The recommendation was unanimously approved.

A request was made that, as a courtesy, Special Appointments made by the Dean of Graduate Studies be shared with the committee prior to the Graduate Council meeting and that the report reflect such appointments in a different color code.

### **C. CLA Committee**

Virginia Wheeles reported on behalf of the committee and recommended that all of the proposed changes to the front matter, the MA/MFA, and COMM be approved pending course approval of COMM 5313. The recommendation was unanimously approved.

### **III. Report from the ITDEC Liaison - Dr. Mary Bantell**

This item was tabled.

### **IV. Matters Arising**

1. Luis Cifuentes shared information regarding The Path Forward, a document published and disseminated by the Council of Graduate Schools. The report focuses on issues of graduation rates of graduate students and asked that the group identify 3 things that we could do institutionally to address this issue. The report will be sent to Grad Council members as not all were familiar with the document.
2. Luis Cifuentes shared that the same funding estimate for Scholarships will apply for Graduate Assistants and that information would be disseminated the following week.
3. JoAnn Canales shared that the RGS was inviting all graduate students, as a complement to what was started in the ELITE program, to respond to an Academic Indicator email sent quickly. Data was being compiled on the nature of the responses and would be shared at a later date.

### **V. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Scott Sherman at 3:15 p.m.