



Graduate Council Meeting MINUTES		Approved October 08, 2015 1:00 PM LIB-220
Council Members Present	Anita Reed; Yolanda Keys; Dulal Kar; Charles Etheridge; Sherry Garrett; David Gurney; Eve Layman; Corinne Valadez; Chris Bird; Frank Spaniol; Joseph Mollick; Glenn Blalock; Thomas Naehr; Linda Gibson-Young	
Council Members Absent	JoAnn Canales; Richard Smith; Monica Hernandez	
Ex-Officio Members Present	Corinne Valadez; Catherine Rudowsky	
Ex-Officio Members Absent		

Meeting began at 1:10 p.m.

I. Approval of Minutes from September 10 Meeting

Dr. Etheridge moved to approve the September 10 Minutes as submitted, Dr. Spaniol seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously.

II. Reports and Updates

A. Graduate Council Chair – Dr. Anita Reed

Dr. Reed addressed the current subcommittee structure and said that changes may be necessary to better accommodate the subcommittees' responsibilities.

She also reported on the TAMUS training session about new program development and review that was conducted by Ken Poenisch on October 05.

Dr. Kar mentioned that a new MBA for Engineering students is under development.

B. CGS Updates – Dr. Thomas Naehr

i. Acknowledgement of Faculty Serving as GFRs

Dr. Naehr asked how faculty serving as GFRs could be acknowledged in addition to the current practice of sending letters to their Chair and Dean.

Dr. Etheridge: provide release time for their GFR service.

Dr. Garrett: invite and acknowledge GFRs during the Graduate Appreciation Luncheon in April.

ii. TAMUS Resources for New Academic Program Requests

Dr. Naehr also reported on the TAMUS training session and showed where resources for new program development can be found on the TAMUS website.

iii. Pathways Student Research Symposium

Dr. Naehr reminded the Council of the upcoming Pathways Research Symposium and mentioned that volunteers are still welcome, especially for judging duties.

C. Committee Reports

i. Curriculum

The subcommittee reported that no chair has been elected yet, pending a decision on final subcommittee membership.

1. Catalog Copy

The subcommittee recommended to adopt the recommendations made by CGS for graduate program sections for the following Colleges: COB, CLA, COE, CONHS. The council voted to accept the subcommittee's recommendation.

New courses and course changes are still under review.

The Curriculum subcommittee also requested that additional members be moved from the R&P subcommittee. Several members volunteered. An updated roster will be presented after the R&P subcommittee has discussed the issue.

New approval options for new and changed courses were discussed:

- (1) Approve with minor revisions
- (2) Reconsider with revisions
- (3) Do not approve/send back

The subcommittee recommended to add (1) as an option to the course review form. Recommendation passed with one abstention.

The subcommittee also felt that non-substantive changes should be approved by CGS without Council review. Discussion ensued what constitutes a non-substantive change and what courses should be reviewed by Graduate Council versus CGS only. No vote was taken and the issue will be discussed further.

Discussion followed about separating the new course/new program review process from catalog review. Ad hoc committee consisting of Drs. Reed, Garrett, Layman, Valadez, and Kar was formed to discuss/create criteria for new program review. Subcommittee will report at next Council meeting.

ii. Rules and Procedures

Dr. Garrett has agreed to serve as the R&P subcommittee chair.

1. Graduate Faculty Applications

Two T/TT graduate faculty reappointments from COB and CONHS were approved as submitted.

D. Liaison Reports

i. ITDEC – Dr. Richard Smith: absent, no report.

ii. Faculty Senate – Dr. Corinne Valadez

Dr. Valadez reported that Dr. Shupala attended Senate meeting to talk about University Rules and Procedures under review.

The Provost gave an overview over Faculty Senate expectations and talked about streamlining campus processes (catalog review, program review...), and faculty workload.

TENTATIVE FUTURE MEETING DATES:

2015: 11/12, 12/10

2016: 01/21, 02/11, 02/25, 03/10, 03/24, 04/14, 04/28, 05/12

Reminder about concealed carry faculty forums and areas already excluded from concealed carry (ECDC, sporting events, campus housing).

Council members were reminded that the University is switching back to paper evaluations for the time being to improve student response rates.

iii. Library – Dr. Catherine Rudowsky

The library is receiving a new roof and most of the new furniture has been installed. Grand reopening and ribbon-cutting will take place on October 29.

Dr. Rudowsky also reported that the organizational structure of the library has changed somewhat and presented a handout summarizing new databases, full-text journals, and video streaming services that were added to the library's inventory.

III. Unfinished Business

A. Review of Bylaws

Dr. Naehr reminded the Council to review the bylaws so that suggested changes can be discussed.

B. Subcommittee Membership

R&P subcommittee will meet and discuss committee structure. Overall consensus is that the Curriculum subcommittee may need additional members to better reflect the generally higher workload of that subcommittee.

IV. New Business

A. Selection Committee for Outstanding Graduate Awards

An ad hoc committee (Drs. Gibson-Young, Mollick, Spaniol, Blalock, Bird) was formed that will review the nominees from each College in mid-November.

B. Discussion of GC Meeting Structure

Dr. Naehr suggested that, instead of having meetings of the full Council every second and fourth Thursday, the meetings could alternate between full Council meetings (second Thursday) and subcommittee meetings (fourth Thursday).

Dr. Layman moved to adopt the proposed meeting schedule; Dr. Spaniol seconded.

Dr. Reed amended the motion, asking that if only one meeting is scheduled for a given month (e.g., November), that meeting date will be reserved for the full Council.

The amended motion passed unanimously.

V. Matters Arising

Dr. Kar: Computing Sciences department is exploring option to offer a coursework-only MS degree in Computer Science.

Dr. Garrett: Program review should pay attention to how a proposed program aligns with the University's mission and vision.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

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