THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

ACTION MINUTES

April 4, 2000

The seventh meeting of the Graduate Council for the 1999-2000 academic year was held in room 4.03.08 John Peace Library Building, April 4, 2000, with Dr. Louis Mendoza presiding.


Absent: John Adams, Blandina Cardenas, Krista Bragg, Daniel Diaz, Andrew Martinez, Jeanne C. Reesman, Robert K. Smith

Excused: Frances Colpitt

Visitor: John VanderWeg, Viirgina Balderas, Dorothy Flannagan, Marsha C. Bol, and James Schneider

I. Call to order and taking of attendance

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March meeting were approved.

III. Reports

A. Council Chair

Dr. Mendoza first introduced Dr. James Schneider, Director of Self Study, for comments on the SACS evaluation process. Dr. Schneider provided a handout (Attachment A) and reported that for the site visit there will be 11 compliance auditors and 8 additional visitors. The thematic report is available and the compliance report will quickly be available also. Council members may be interviewed as anticipated on the handout. Dr. Mendoza requested that the Committee on Academic Policy and Requirements serve as the nucleus for interviews and that this committee also try to have available students who might be interviewed.

Dr. Mendoza reported that the Graduate Colloquium Committee has met and will plan colloquia for next Fall.

He introduced guests and called for a motion authorizing them to address the Council; the motion passed.

Continued from the March meeting, Dr. Mendoza called upon Dr. Skekel, chair of the Committee on Academic Policy and Requirements, to complete the report of that committee. Dr. Skekel explained changes in the document; Dr. Allen suggested an additional wording change in two locations in the document. Dr. Kelly asked about the approval sequence on page 11, item 2 c, wondering whether any level in the chain is authorized to stop the progress of a proposed program. The answer was that this is not the intent; rather each level expresses approval or disapproval and forwards the proposal with its recommendation. A motion was made, seconded, and passed accepting the Bylaws as amended.
B. Interim Dean of Graduate Studies

No report

C. Secretary

Dr. Westmeyer reported the results of elections of Council memberships for both faculty members and students. A motion was made, seconded, and passed certifying the reported results.

Dr. Westmeyer announced that a list of needed nominations for Council positions and for memberships on Council committees will be given to the ad hoc Nominating Committee with the request that the committee report at the May meeting.

D. Committee on Graduate Programs and Courses

Dr. Armstrong reported that, after the committee recommendations had been incorporated in the proposal for a Master of Arts degree in Museum Studies, the committee recommends approval of that program. (See Attachment B) Dr. Bol spoke to a question about the appropriate background for this degree, saying that it is very broad and an undergraduate degree in history, fine arts, education, BBL, and several other areas will be appropriate. She also pointed out that a number of summer internships have been made available and will be of great help in getting the program underway. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the program.

Dr. Armstrong reported further that recommendations will be made at the May meeting regarding the proposed Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and the Ph.D. in Business Administration.

E. Membership Committee

Dr. Fuhrman distributed an amended list of recommended memberships (Attachment C) and explained that, in three cases on the list, persons recommended for membership are not yet tenured but come under a Council regulation that allows movement from Associate to Full membership after completion of a three-year term in the former category. The memberships were approved as presented.

F. Committee on Graduate Program Evaluation

Dr. Perez indicated that reports on evaluations will be made at the May meeting on the programs in architecture, anthropology, and computer science. Since there has been some confusion regarding the evaluation process, it is likely that the Master of Taxation and Master of Science in Accounting will request postponement. Dr. Mendoza reported that the Master of Music Graduate Studies Committee (through the COFAH) has requested postponement of its evaluation until Fall. A motion to approve this request was made, seconded, and passed.

IV. Unfinished Business

None

V. New Business

None

It was announced that the May meeting will be on Thursday, May 4.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.
ATTACHMENT A

SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS
SITE VISIT
APRIL 24-27

COMPLIANCE ISSUES potentially involving the GRADUATE COUNCIL

Graduate Material is found mostly in Section 4.3 of the Report on Compliance.

1. New program development (4.3.1) Do we conduct needs assessments? Do we consider the Mission of the University in developing programs?

2. Role of the Graduate Council in reviewing existing programs. (4.3.1, 4.3.4.8)

3. Role of the Graduate Council in establishing minimum program requirements. (4.3.2.1)

4. Role of the Graduate Council in developing admissions requirements. (4.3.2.3, 4.3.2.4)

5. Role of the Graduate Council in developing curriculum. (4.3.4–4.3.4.4)

6. Distinctions among bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral programs of study. (4.3.4.6)

7. Issues involving graduate advising. (4.3.5.5, 4.3.6.1)

GENERAL QUESTIONS

These pertain to all the question areas listed previously.

a. Do we have what we say we have? That is, are our policies and practices accurately described in the Report?

b. Do we do what we say we do? That is, are we following the policies?

FORMAT of the REPORT ON COMPLIANCE

Each subsection (e.g. 4.3.4.6) contains:

1. A verbatim copy of the criterion that SACS is asking us to meet. (Known as "must statements.")

2. Our response, in which we explain how we have been complying with the criterion.

3. A list of the documentary support for our response.

The Report on Compliance is on the Web at: http://www.utsa.edu/aviso/sacs/cr/crtcoc.htm
Summary of Master of Arts in Museum Studies

The M.A. in Museum Studies will fill a void in the South Texas region by providing graduate training for entry into specialized professional positions (such as collections management, exhibit development, educational programming, administration and management, development and revenue generation) in non-profit and private institutions dedicated to acquiring, preserving, and transmitting cultural knowledge. Currently there are only two other graduate Museum Studies programs in Texas: 1) Texas Tech University is the only state university that offers a degree, and 2) Baylor University, a private school, offers both an undergraduate degree and a graduate degree with an emphasis in museum administration.

The program will provide graduates with an intellectual focus in multicultural studies to meet the increasing demand in the professional museum world for professionals trained in multicultural perspectives. In support of this unique curriculum, the Smithsonian Institution and the San Antonio-based Alameda National Center for Latino Arts and Culture are providing two annual Latino internships for UTSA graduate students in the Museum Studies program.

This degree program is designed to be interdisciplinary and will draw students from across the university and the South Texas region with undergraduate degrees in the disciplines of Anthropology, Art History, Bicultural-Bilingual Studies, Business, Education, History, and others. The program will be housed in the Division of Behavioral and Cultural Sciences.

The program requires 39 semester credit hours (SCH), which includes 15 SCH of core courses and 6 SCH of internship. Students will have an opportunity to develop special competencies by selecting 18 SCH of prescribed electives from among four areas of emphasis.
AMENDED

Recommendations for Membership in the Graduate Faculty

College of Business

Member
Donde P. Ashmos
Lance Broughters
Kellye Jones

College of Fine Arts and Humanities

Member
Margaret McBride

Associate Member
Kenton T. Wilkinson

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Member
Rodolfo Rosales

Special Member
Joseph H. Stafford

College of Sciences and Engineering

Member
George R. Negrete
John V. McClusky
Waldemar Gorski

Associate Member
Norman Preston