University Room
BB 2.06.04
3:30-5:00 p.m.

Present:
Richard Armendariz, Mike Baumann, Onur Bayar, Edward Burian, Liao Chen, Alberto Cordova, Gloria Crisp, Sara DeTurk, Jurgen Engelberth, Michael Gardin, Donald Goess, Kevin Grant, Jeannie Hahl, Judy Haschenburger, Vic Heller, Steven Hoffman, Cameron Hole, Eugene John, Myung Ko, Barbara McCabe, Michael McDonald, James O’Grady, Malgorzata Oleszkiewicz-Peralba, Cornel Pasnicu, Billie Jo Rodriguez, Patricia Sanchez, Elaine Sanders, Hatim Sharif, Page Smith, Johnelle Sparks, Drew Stephen, Josh Thurow, Ram Tripathi, Lila Truett, Walter Wilson

Absent:
Bernadette Andrea, Joshua Cavazos, Dennis Davis, Ender Finol, Jeff Halley, Anne Hardgrove, Mary Hatch, Donald Kurtz, Marie Tillyer, Weining Zhang

Excused:
Michael Cepek, Dorothy Flannagan,

Visitors:
Stephan Back, Waldemar Gorski

I. Call to Order and Taking of Attendance
The December meeting of the Graduate Council was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Council Chair Dr. Elaine Sanders.

II. Approval of the Minutes
Dr. Sanders asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2013 meeting as written. A motion was made by Dr. Eugene John and the motion passed unanimously.

III. Reports
A. Council Chair (Elaine Sanders)
Dr. Sanders requested a motion to suspend the by-laws to allow to allow non-committee members to participate. The motion was made by Dr. Liao Chen, seconded by Dr. Lila Truett and approved by the Council.
B. Dean of the Graduate School
Dr. Smith discussed the Texas Higher education Coordinating Board’s “Coordinating Board Update ATGS Fall 2013”. Several policy changes were presented and discussed:

- THECB will review all requests for new degree programs and determine completeness of request within 5 working days of receipt.
- If additional information is needed, institutions have 10 working days to provide it or the request will be returned.
- THECB has a 1 year time limit for review of new degree programs.
- New doctoral requests must include data on capacity and production of other similar doctoral programs.
- THECB no longer approves mission statements or preliminary requests. Both are now “notification only.

Dr. Smith noted that website changes are being made regarding individual college recruiting.

C. Secretary (Vic Heller)
Dr. Heller gave an update on committee membership vacancies. (See Attachment A)

D. Committee of Graduate Program and Courses (Kevin Grant)
No Report

E. Membership Committee (Michael Cepek)
Dr. Ram Tripathi presented Special Membership applications. (See Attachment B) The vote of the committee served as a motion to accept. The motion was seconded by Mr. Edward Burian and approved by the Council.

F. Committee of Graduate Program Evaluation (Vic Heller)
Dr. Heller presented the program evaluation report on the Department of Chemistry. The CGPE supports the recommendations. Motion to accept the report was made by Dr. Sara DeTurk; passing unanimously.

G. Committee on Academic Policy and Requirements (Sara DeTurk)
Dr. DeTurk presented policy changes being discussed by the CAPR for the upcoming Graduate Catalog. These included; academic standing, reinstatement, and grade inflation and dual degree programs. No vote was requested. (See Attachment C)

IV. Unfinished Business
None

V. New Business
None
VI. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m.