

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO
DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL
ACTION MINUTES

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Location
3:30pm-5:00pm
4/6/2021

I. Call to order and taking of attendance

Present: Ambika Mathur, Anna Penna, Arkangel Cordero, Bridget Drinka, Catherine Clinton, Corey Sparks, Doug Frantz, Drew Stephen, Elisha Reynolds, Guadalupe Carmona, HungDa Wan, Jurgen Engelberth, Kenneth Walker, Liang Tang, Matthew Brogdon, Megan Augustyn, Michael Baumann, Michael Cepek, Nicolas Large, Page Smith, Ram Tripathi, Richard Harris, Saugata Datta, Shamshad Khan, Victor Villarreal, Wei-Ming Lin, William Land, Xiaoyin Wang

Absent: Abtin Shahrokh Hamedani, Ana Narro Laborin, Jorge Solis, Libby Rowe, Melissa Wallace, Patricia Akello, Patricia Jaramillo, Rohit Valecha, Selina Angel, Terrence Hill, Zijun Wang

Excused: Elaine Sanders, Heather Trepal

Visitor: Chad Mahood, Hannah Macnaul, Leslie Neely

II. Reports

A. Council Chair

- Consent Agenda
 - March minutes – approved with no discussion
 - Special memberships – approved with no discussion
- Senate Report
 - Faculty senate approved bylaws changes previously voted on by the Graduate Council
- J. Engelberth (GC Chair) suggested that Graduate Council meetings continue to be held online during the next academic year

B. Dean of Graduate School

- Dean Mathur presented admissions cycle data for Spring 2021 (the presentation slide was shared with members of the Graduate Council via email)
- GAR ad hoc subcommittee update
 - Corey Sparks presented results of the UTSA Graduate Council Graduate Advisor Survey (presentation slides were shared with the GC members via TEAMS and are also available via Github
<https://github.com/coreysparks/UTSA_Grad_Advisor_Survey/tree/master/data>)
 - Survey data includes time spent weekly on GAR activities, GAR membership on Graduate Council, views on compensation, availability of administrative support, and Department Chair perspectives
 - Key takeaways: GARs are an integral part of the success of graduate programs, notable variation exists in compensation for GARs, and many GARs are frustrated by the lack support

- Discussion: differences in program size and type make standardized practice difficult, significant concern regarding the lack of summer compensation, significant concern about the amount of time spent on administrative tasks and University cuts to administrative staff, faculty don't want to fill GAR positions, and concern about GAR work is affecting productivity in other areas
- Next steps: create an executive summary and recommendations based on survey findings; Jurgen will share this at the Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting next week, with the goal to send recommendations for Faculty Senate

C. Secretary

- Announcements were sent last month to department chairs about electing and confirming Graduate Council members for next year
 - Graduate Council members have not been elected for 7 departments
 - Follow up with your Department Chairs to ensure that members are elected
- Graduate Council officer elections for 2021-2022 academic year
 - V. Villarreal (running unopposed) appointed as Secretary
 - J. Engelberth (running unopposed) appointed as Chair
 - The Parliamentarian position remains unfilled; no nominations were submitted prior to or during the April 2021 Graduate Council meeting

D. Committee on Graduate Programs and Courses

- MS in Behavior Analysis – H. MacNaul presented a summary of the program proposal and answered questions, including clarification about clinical hours
 - Graduate Council voted in favor of approving the program

E. Committee on Graduate Program Evaluation

- No report

F. Committee on Academic Policy and Requirements

- No report

III. Unfinished Business

IV. New Business

- Discussion of GRA/GTA appointments limited to 19 hours
 - 20 hour appointments are not available, but competitive scholarship can be used to convert tuition rates to in-state tuition rates as needed

V. Adjournment