

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

TEAMS
9/7/2021
3:30-5:00

I. Call to order and taking of attendance

- **Present:** Heather Trepal, Victor Villarreal, Juan Nino, Lupita Carmona, Amina Qutub, Samer Dessouky, Wei-Ming Lin, Hung-Da Wan, Michael Cepek, Ovidio Giberga, Melissa Wallace, Drew Stephan, Terence Hill, Megan Augustyn, Corey Sparks, Patricia Jaramillo, Billy Land, Michael Baumann, Richard Harris, Matthew Troia, Jurgen Engelberth, Zachary Tonzetich, Ambika Mathur, Jeff Ragsdale, Lynn Barnes, Eric Cooper
- **Absent:** Xiao Yan Wang, Shamshad Khan, Kenneth Walker, Matthew Brogdon, Ritu Mathur, Xiaoyin Wang, Saugata Datta, Nicolas Large

II. Consent Agenda

- May 2021 minutes – approved with no discussion

III. Reports

A. Committee on Graduate Programs and Courses

- Election for Chair of Graduate Programs and Courses Committee
 - Notify Victor Villarreal or Jurgen Engelberth if interested in serving as the committee chair, preferably someone that has previously served on this committee
- No report

B. Council Chair

- No report from the Council Chair on behalf of the Executive Committee
- No report from the Faculty Senate

C. Dean of Graduate School (slides are available to Graduate Council members)

- Summarized Graduate School mission (including Recruitment, Retention, and Readiness)
- Recruitment information included: inquiries, recruitment events, recruitment projects, event registrations, and graduate enrollment numbers
- Retention information included: updates to graduate catalog and student policies, inquiries, new programs, and inaugural awards for recognition of graduate excellence
- Readiness information included: creation of two centers (Center for Transdisciplinary Training [and Team Grand Challenges], and Center for Graduate & Postdoc Career and Professional Development), orientations, speakers, thesis and dissertation support, research symposium, and NSF fellowship program
- New for Fall 2021 - Roadrunner Assistantship Academy, Scholarly Impacts of Plagiarism, Postdoc Appreciation Week, Annual Review and Individual Development Plan
- Graduate Student Success Task Force - Currently in Phase II, including implementing recommendations related to graduate assistantships, funding, recruitment,

- NRUF Designation - First of the site visits on September 30th and October 1st for two of the five PhD program selected for review; spring 2022 – financial audit, with possible funding beginning fall 2022
- Carnegie R1 - push to increase the number of PhDs awarded for the next counting period
- Graduate School Newsletter - highlights recruitment, enrollment, graduate and postdoc success, spotlights, and competition; contact Graduate School with success stories/spotlights for students in your programs

D. Secretary

- Seeking nominations for Officers for the Graduate Council Executive Committee
 - At-Large Member – one position, one Student member
 - Email Ginger if interested in open positions or with nominations
- Seeking nomination for Parliamentarian for the Graduate Council
 - Graduate Council voted ‘yes’ to approve Michael Baumann for this position
- Graduate Council Committees
 - Current and previous committee chairs described the major roles/responsibilities of the standing committees (committee descriptions are also available on the Graduate Council website)
 - Graduate Council members should sign up for at least one committee → Ginger will create a sign up form in TEAMS

E. Committee on Graduate Program Evaluation

- No report

IV. Unfinished Business

V. New Business

- Update on graduate admissions processing moving from the Graduate School to Strategic Enrollment
 - i. Lynn Barnes and Eric Cooper summarized key changes
 1. New application process (Liaison UniCAS, through Strategic Enrollment) went live September 1, 2021
 2. Training will be offered soon for the new systems (training for “processors,” followed by training for GARS and Student Development Specialists)
 - ii. Ambika Mathur noted that recruitment will still reside in the Graduate School and that collaboration between programs, the Graduate School, and Strategic enrollment will continue to be critical for effective practice; Embark will not be used after the spring 2022 semester

VI. Adjournment