

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Location - TEAMS 11/7/2023 3:30-5:00

I. Call to order and taking of attendance

- The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

Present: Xiaodu Wang, Kathryn Henderson, Alfonso Apicella, Zachary Tonzetich, Ovidio Giberga, William Land, Stephanie Westney, Ambika Mathur, Roberto Silva Villatoro, Dakai Zhu, Victor Villarreal, Tansu Demir, Andrew Konove, Min Wang, Joe Houpt, Andrea Aleman, Richard J Harris, Byongook Moon, Elaine Sanders, Michael Cepek, Fathali Firoozi, Judith Haschenburger, Nancy Membrez Eunho Park, Christopher Stratman, Allison Veach, Ying Huang, Jeffrey Howard, Ginger Hernandez Guadalupe Carmona, Priya Prasad, Arkangel Cordero, Wei-Ming Lin, Shamshad Khan, Michael Newell, Ambika Mathur

Absent: Angela Lombardi, Kenneth Walker, Gabriela Romero-Uribe, Natasha Burns, Nicolas Large, Rita Mitra

Guest: Karen Williams

II. Consent Agenda

- Approval of meeting minutes from 10/3/23.
- Approval of Graduate Faculty Special Memberships.
 - The Chair reminded the Council that these documents are available in the Teams folder.

III. Reports

A. Committee on Graduate Programs and Courses

- Accelerated MPA Program
 - No report; the program is still being discussed in subcommittee.

B. Council Chair

- Faculty senate updates
 - No specific updates regarding Graduate Council
 - Faculty Senate continues to discuss SB17 and SB18 and their implementation.
 - The Chair encouraged Council members to read the Faculty Senate newsletter.

C. Dean of Graduate School

- Updates on discussion with senior leadership concerning the Doctoral Mentorship Initiative.
 - The Dean presented slides describing Mentorship responsibilities and priorities from her discussion at the University level (available on Teams).
 - Key themes are retention and reputational impact.
 - Mentoring badges for faculty and mentor-mentee compacts will be a component of future mentoring activities.
 - The Dean shared resources for Mentorship Education.

- Discussion from the floor raised points about different mentoring capacities and the need for broad representation on the Mentoring Committee. A point about workload credit was also made.

D. Secretary

- Emails have been sent to GC members requesting them to serve on the Doctoral Mentorship subcommittee.
- Call for new agenda items.

E. Committee on Graduate Program Evaluation

- No report

IV. Unfinished Business

- The Chair will begin revising the GC by-laws to bring into form with those of the Faculty Senate. An update on any changes will be given at the November EC meeting and presented to the full council thereafter.
 - The plan is to have these changes presented to the Council at the December general meeting.
 - The chair provided a link to the current by-laws and asked the Council to look over the existing text. Input is encouraged.

V. New Business

- In-person meeting December 5
 - Location will be the JPL Assembly room.
 - Dr. Prasad raised a question about graduate course substitutions. The Dean provided guidance on the best way to petition for substitutions.
 - Dr. Cepek raised a question about graduate degree committee composition with respect to having a majority of departmental members. Ms. Hernandez informed the Council that the Graduate Catalog provides guidance on such issues.

VI. Adjournment

- The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:17.