

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Location – JPL 4.04.22 (Assembly Room) 12/5/2023

- I. The Chaired called the meeting to order at 3:36 PM.
 - Quorum met
 - Present: Byongook Moon, Dakai Zhu, Elaine Sanders, Eunho Park, Faithali Firoozi, Gabriela Romero-Uribe, Guadalupe Carmona, Jeff Howard, Kathryn Henderson, Michael Cepek, Min Wang, Ovidio Giberga, Priya Prasad, Rita Mitra, Roberto Silva Villatoro, Shamsad Khan, Stephanie Westney, Tansu Demir, Victor Villarreal, Victoria Kim, William Land, Xiaodu Wang, Zach Tonzetich, Andrea Aleman, Joe Hought
 - Absent: Alfonso Apicella, Allison Veach, Andrew Konove, Angela Lombardi, Arkangel Cordero, Christopher Stratman, Michael Newell, Nancy Membrez, Natasha Burns, Nicolas Large, Richard Harris, Wei-Ming Lin
 - Guest: Rob Tillyer

- II. Consent Agenda
 - Meeting Minutes
 - Special Membership

- III. Reports
 - A. Committee on Graduate Programs and Courses
 - Accelerated MPA Program – College for Health, Community and Policy
 - The Chair shared the salient points of the program with the Council.
 - Prior questions about the program from the Committee on Graduate Programs and Courses and the corresponding answers are available on TEAMS.
 - A Council member from the Department of Public Administration shared comments on the program indicating broad support from the department for the program as a recruiting tool.
 - Discussion from the floor regarding the ability to count undergraduate courses that count toward degree for a graduate degree was discussed. The Dean and members of the Graduate School clarified the policy regarding transfer of credits toward M.S. degrees.
 - Further discussion from the floor concerned the possibility of creating similar programs in other colleges, the ability of undergraduates in the accelerated MPA to obtain Graduate Scholarships, and the cost of SCHs taken by undergraduates for graduate credit. The Dean provided explanation for each of these issues.
 - The Chair moved for a vote on the program.
 - The motion carried with unanimous support.

 - B. Council Chair
 - No update from faculty senate.
 - Updates to the Graduate Council bylaws (files available on TEAMS).
 - The Chair presented the updates made to the bylaws highlighting significant substantive changes. These included language regarding the ability of FTT faculty to serve as MS sole chairs, language defining administrative

classifications for Council membership, and language governing the ability to hold electronic votes outside of normal Council meetings.

- Discussion from the floor asked the Chair to provide justification for each of the changes in the bylaws document.
- A point from the floor also raised the necessity to add language surrounding Comprehensive Exams/Non-Thesis tracks. The idea to revise to state “Master’s Committee” was suggested.
- FTT workload was brought up with concerns that faculty not be overloaded.
- A vote on the bylaw updates will take place in the Spring.

C. Dean of Graduate School

- No report.

D. Secretary

- Ad-hoc Doctoral Mentorship Committee.

E. Committee on Graduate Program Evaluation

- No report.

IV. Unfinished Business

- None.

V. New Business

- Proposal for SCH reduction for students nearing the 99 SCH threshold (available on TEAMS).
 - Dr. Tonzetich – Department of Chemistry
 - [Victor can add a summary of the discussion here]
- The student representative from the Council raised the concern of increased student membership from other colleges around the university.

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 4:34 PM.