

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Location: TEAMS 9/5/2023 3:30-5:00

I. Call to order and taking of attendance

- The chair called the meeting to order at 3:33 PM.
- Present: Priya Prasad, Tansu Demir, Ying Huang, Richard J Harris, Nancy Membrez, William Land, Zachary Tonzetich, Rita Mitra, Natasha Burns, Gabriela Romero Uribe, Fathali Firoozi, Christopher Stratman, Jeffrey Howard, HungDa Wan, Min Wang, Judy Haschenburger, Ambika Mathur, Victor Villarreal, Allison Veach, Dakai Zhu, Alfonso Apicella, Andrew Konove, Shamshad Khan, Wei-Ming Lin, Stephanie Westney, Guadalupe Carmona, Kathryn Henderson, Angela Lombardi, Arkangel Cordero
- Absent: Michael Cepek, Nicole Beebe, Xiaodu Wang, Shamshad Kahn, Elaine Sanders, Kenneth Walker, Byongook Moon, Alicia Swan, Nicolas Large
- Guest: Ginger Hernandez, Jeff Ragsdale

II. Consent Agenda

- The chair briefed the council on the purpose of the consent agenda.
- Prior meeting minutes (5/2/23) and Special Memberships approved with no discussion.

III. Reports

A. Committee on Graduate Programs and Courses

- No report.
- The chair reviewed the purpose of committee.

B. Council Chair

- The chair provided a recap of AY 22/23 accomplishments by the council. These included approval of special membership; approval of new graduate programs (2 new Ph.D. programs), and fruitful communication between the Graduate School and graduate programs.
- The chair introduced new members of the Executive Committee and called for new members and chairs for the standing committees.
- The chair explained role on faculty senate. There was nothing yet to report relevant to Graduate Council this month, but the chair did mention that the Senate was working diligently on guidance pertaining to SB 17 and SB 18.
- One goal for Graduate Council this year will be to revise/review the by-laws and bring them into better alignment with those of the Faculty Senate.

C. Dean of Graduate School

- Dean Mathur gave a presentation (pptx available in Teams) of prior year's accomplishments and projects moving forward. Last year's new initiatives included the Retention, Readiness, and Completion components of the Ph.D. This year, roll out of the Reimagining the Ph.D.

initiative will take place with new phases encompassing Launch, Candidacy and Dissertation. Other aspects of the doctoral degree to be promoted by the Graduate School include Individual Development Plans and Support Initiatives related to student well-being and dissertation writing.

- Dean Mathur fielded questions from the council, which covered a new publication badge for students and HR support for fellowship appointments.

D. Secretary

- The secretary introduced himself and updated the council on standing committee memberships.
- The secretary also informed the council that they are welcome to forward potential agenda items to him for consideration at future meetings.

E. Committee on Graduate Program Evaluation

- No report

IV. Unfinished Business

- The chair updated the council on revisions to Special Membership applications.
- More information will be required moving forward for Special Membership in order to be in compliance with SACS.

V. New Business

- Dean Mathur introduced a new charge for Graduate Council this academic year involving the development of a Faculty Mentoring Plan. An ad-hoc committee will be formed to draft the plan and members of the council are currently being sought to serve on this ad-hoc committee.

VI. Adjournment –Dr. Tonzetich motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and carried by vote of the council. The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 PM.