

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRADUTE COUNCIL
ACTION MINUTES

November 4, 2003

Main Campus: BB3.04.08
DT, FS 2.532
3:30 p.m.

The third meeting of the Graduate Council for the 2003-2004 academic year was called to order at 3:30 p.m. on November 4, 2003.

Present: R.E.W. Adams, Ron Alexander, Mark Allen, Stephan Bach, Adria Bodour, Christopher Borman, Jerrell Cogburn, Paul Cotae, Mansour El-Kikhia, Lila Flory-Turett, Robert Fhurman, Kolleen Guy, Han Hai-Choa, Jack Himelblau, Fred Hudson, Eugene John, Plalani-Rajan Kadapakkam, Kasandra Keeling, Michael Kelly, Raymond Padilla, Thomas Thomson, Armando Trujillo, Pablo Vila, Esther Wheeler Amy Gilmour, Andrew Perez, Raj Wilson, Ted Skekel, Dorothy Flannagan, and Olivia Yu

Absent: Thomas Bylander, Norma Cantu, Marcheta Evans, Fathali Firoozi, James Groff, Nandini Kannan, Richard LeBaron, Randall Manteufel, Neil Maurer, Hugh Maynard, John McCarrey, John McCray, Howard Smith, Andrew Tsin, Jose Weissmann, Frances C. Kneupper, Tracey Johnston, Robert Ayoub, Carol Brochin, and David Mata

Excused: Stuart Birnbaum, Jan Clark, Victor Heller, Judith Sobre

Visitors: Jesse Zapata and Dennis Haynes

- I. Minutes from the October 7, 2003 were approved.
- II. Reports
 - A. Council Chair (Ted Skekel)

Dr. Skekel reported on questions from the College of Public Policy regarding the university's policies on incomplete grades for graduate students and time limits related to conditions of reinstatement. After some discussion among Council members about the history of the policies, Dr. Skekel forwarded the questions to the Committee on Graduate Programs and Courses. The committee is to examine the current policies to determine if changes are needed. Also, the committee will look at apparently contradictory language between the Graduate Catalog and the University Information Bulletin.

Dr. Skekel reported on changes currently being considered to the Council's Bylaws regarding the overall size/representation of Council and allowing

Council (as opposed to the Faculty Senate) to elect the Council chair. The Faculty Senate is also considering the issues and will be reporting responses from its membership in November. Dr. Skekel is working on a survey on the proposed structural changes, which will be distributed to Council; the results will be forwarded to the Committee on Academic Policy and Requirements that, in turn, will be reporting to Council in December or January. Council action will likely occur in Spring 2004.

B. Interim Dean of Graduate Studies (Dorothy Flannagan)

Dr. Flannagan updated Council on the status of proposed graduate degree programs. Dr. Flannagan reported meeting with Dr. Teresa Sullivan, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, UT System, on graduate degree programs under development at UTSA. Dr. Flannagan supplied Dr. Sullivan with brief summaries of these programs in advance of another meeting between the two on November 24, 2003.

Next, the proposed policy and procedures for implementing certificate programs were considered. Dr. Ray Padilla offered two amendments to the proposed policy, both of which were approved by Council. Council also approved a friendly amendment to correct language on the routing of approvals for new graduate certificate programs. Finally, Council voted to approve the policy, as amended.

C. Secretary (Jerrell Cogburn)

Dr. Cogburn announced changes in membership for Graduate Council and presented nominations for additional members to support the Committees on Graduate Programs and Course and Graduate Program Evaluation. The nominations were approved.

Council members joined Dr. Skekel in thanking Dr. Rosalind Horowitz and Dr. Michael Kelly of the Nominating Committee for their efforts to find nominees for the additional committee member positions.

D. Membership Committee (Eugene John)

Dr. John recommended approval of the committee's report for additional members to the Graduate Faculty. The recommendation was approved.

E. Committee on Graduate Program Evaluation (Victor Heller)

Dr. Heller was scheduled to present requests to defer evaluations for two graduate programs: MA in Counseling (FY04-05) and MS in Computer Science (FY06-07). Dr. Heller was unable to attend the Council meeting, so no action was taken on this item.

F. Committee on Graduate Programs and Courses (Marcheta Evans)

A portion of Council's Bylaws were waived to allow Dr. Jesse Zapata, Dean of the College of Public Policy, and Dr. Dennis Haynes, Chair of the

Department of Social Work, to speak to Council regarding the proposed Master of Social Work (MSW) degree program.

Substituting for Dr. Marcheta Evans, Dr. Olivia Yu presented the committee's recommendation for approval of the MSW proposal. Following a motion to approve the committee's recommendation, Dr. Haynes and Dr. Zapata answered questions regarding the MSW program proposal, including questions about the Council on Social Work Education's accreditation requirements, the program's feasibility at UTSA, and program resource needs and commitments. Following this discussion, the Council unanimously approved the committee's recommendation: the program proposal was approved.

G. Committee on Academic Policy and Requirements (Stuart Birnbaum)
No report.

III. Unfinished Business
None.

IV. New Business
None.

V. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.