

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

**December 7, 2010**

**University Room, BB 2.06.04  
3:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Kim Bilica, Rena Bizios, Andrey Chabanov, Bill Cooke, Samer Dessouky, Sedef Doganer, Jim Dykes, Carolyn Ehardt, Dorothy Flannagan, Rhonda Gonzales, Richard Hartley, Kim Kline, Myung Ko, Elizabeth Murakami-Ramalho, Branco Ponomariov, Joel Saegert, Patricia Sanchez, Elaine Sanders, Scott Sherer, Drew Stephen, Garry Sunter, Ram Tripathi, Lila Truett, John Wald, Hongjie Xie, Johnelle Sparks (for Mary Zey)

**Absent:** David Akopian, Ashraf Alam, Peter Anderson, Mark Bayer, Shereen Bhalla, Schuyler Costello, Santiago Daydi-Tolson, Yue Huang, Don Kurtz, Russell Reeder, Heather Trepal, Xiaohe Xu

**Excused:** Amanda Chou, Norma Guerra, Goutham Menon, Sharon Navarro, Rudy Sandoval, Can Saygin, Mindy Wallen

**Visitors:**

Diane Walz Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, College of Business  
Cory Hallam Director, Center for Innovation and Technology Entrepreneurship

**I. Call to order and taking of attendance.**

Dr. Kim Kline called the December 7, 2010 meeting of the Graduate Council to order at 3:34 pm.

**II. Approval of Minutes (Kim Kline)**

The Minutes of the November 2, 2010 meeting were approved.

**III. Reports**

**A. Council Chair (Kim Kline)**

Dr. Kline reported on relevant topics discussed by the Faculty Senate at its November 11th meeting. Two new resolutions are being discussed. The first concerns the implications of a poor teaching evaluation should there be a low response rate to the new online procedures. A low response rate would limit the reliability and validity of the evaluations. The second concerns the new guidelines for criminal background checks of faculty hired more than a few years ago. Discussion of the plus / minus grading system continues with regard to implementation and with regard to the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Work continues on the budget, which will be discussed again at the December meeting.

## **B. Dean of Graduate School (Dorothy Flannagan)**

Dean Dorothy Flannagan thanked the members for meeting on a Study Day. She discussed four topics. The first was a follow-up on plus / minus grading. The new policy will go into effect next Fall, but it is too late to change the Graduate Catalog. The policy will be posted on the Graduate School website and will be presented at the orientations for new students. She encouraged presenting the policy in syllabi and at Department orientations. She also suggested including a link from Department websites to the Graduate School information. While there is faculty choice, it is important to get the information out to students.

The second was a follow-up on the UTSA budget. We are currently planning contingencies for different percent reductions in funding. Since the legislature does not convene until January, no one knows what our budget will be. She expects a deficit number will be presented early in the session. In the past, the early estimate has often been favorably revised across the session. We should have better information in February or March.

Next Dean Flannagan discussed changes in the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) that will be coming in August 2011. She was informed by the Educational Testing Service and passed the information on to the Associate Deans. A student who wishes to take the GRE under the old format or who needs scores before November should take the GRE before August. A student who takes the new version in August or September will receive the scores in mid-November. The Verbal Reasoning section will include fewer vocabulary questions, but more critical thinking and reading comprehension questions. Some questions may require the student to highlight a sentence. The Quantitative Reasoning section will have an increased emphasis on data interpretation and real-life scenarios. The scores will also be scaled very differently. Currently the Verbal and Quantitative scores are reported on a 200- 800 scale with 10-point increments. The new scores will be reported on a 130- 170 scale with 1-point intervals. We will be receiving applications from candidates reporting scores on each of the two scales. It will take a few semesters for us to learn to compare the old and new GRE scores. She encouraged a visit to the GRE website: [http://www.ets.org/gre/revised\\_general/know](http://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/know) .

Finally Dean Flannagan discussed the 18 Characteristics of Doctoral Programs that are collected for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The Office of Institutional Research collects most of the information and reports it to the Graduate School. The current information should be posted on our websites by December 15<sup>th</sup>. Some of the operational definitions of the 18 Characteristics have changed in the last year. For example, the average amount of student support used to include financial aid and tuition assistance. In this round, “student support” only includes stipends and fellowships. Consequently, the reporting of support will decrease due to the change in operational definition. We must be careful drawing comparisons across the two years. She suggested contacting Veronica Ramirez if we have questions.

## **C. Secretary (Jim Dykes)**

Dr. Jim Dykes noted that Dr. Johnelle Sparks has replaced Dr. Mary Zey as the Graduate Council representative for Demography and Organizational Studies. He thanked Dr. Elaine Sanders for completely filling all of our committees (Attachment A). Dr. Sanders reported that Dr. Joel Saegert is our Parliamentarian. Drs. Joo Ong and Sandy Norman are now serving on the Academic & Policy Requirements Committee, Dr.

Ram Tripathi is now serving on the Graduate Programs & Courses Committee, and Dr. Tansu Demir is now serving on the Membership Committee.

**D. Committee on Graduate Programs and Courses (Kim Bilica)**

Dr. Kline welcomed our visitors (Drs. Diane Walz and Cory Hallam) who were invited to help with the discussion of the proposed Graduate Certificate in Technology Entrepreneurship & Management (Attachment A of the Agenda). She moved that the Bylaws be suspended to allow their discussion. Her motion was unanimously approved. Dr. Kim Bilica reported that the 12- hour sequence is designed for scientists, engineers, and business students. It includes three courses in Management of Technology (MOT 5053, 5243, and 5253) and one course in Finance (FIN 5853 or 5013). The sequence could be taken across either one or two academic years. The capstone course (MOT 5253 Starting the High-Tech Firm) is offered each Spring and all of the others are offered at least once a year. The expected enrollment for the first five years is 48 participants with at least 27 certificates granted. In response to a question by Dr. Patricia Sanchez, Dr. Hallam explained that the certificate would be offered by the Department of Information Systems & Technology Management. Dr. Bilica reported that one committee member noted the timeliness of the certificate. The Graduate Certificate in Technology Entrepreneurship & Management was unanimously approved. Dr. Flannagan will try to get it added to the Faculty Senate Agenda.

**E. Membership Committee (Scott Sherer)**

Dr. Scott Sherer reported that all but two of the 13 applicants for Special Membership in Graduate Faculty (Attachment B of the Agenda) hold terminal degrees. The two exceptions are very well qualified. Jack Massing (who holds a BFA) is a member of a performance art group with an international reputation. Stephen Krause (who earned his BS about 30 years ago) has mixed the music for over 100 feature films (including Robert Redford and Robert Altman films) and over 30 albums. Dr. Sherer noted that all 12 applicants for Adjoint Membership (Attachment C of the Agenda) hold doctoral degrees. Both lists were unanimously approved.

**F. Committee on Graduate Program Evaluation (Sharon Navarro)**

Dr. Sharon Navarro was unable to attend. There was no report.

**G. Committee on Academic Policy and Requirements (Joel Saegert)**

Dr. Joel Saegert reminded the Graduate Council that his committee will be reviewing the composition of dissertation committees with respect to requiring a member from outside the department. He reported that one person has already written to Dean Flannagan in opposition. He would like to hear from others opposed to such a requirement before his committee discusses it in the Spring.

**IV. Unfinished Business**

None

**V. New Business**

None

**VI. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:05.

**Attachment A**  
**GRADUATE COUNCIL COMMITTEES**  
 2010-2011

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND AGENDA**

Kim Kline, Chair  
 Dorothy Flannagan, Dean of Graduate School, Ex Officio  
 James Dykes, Secretary  
 Sharon Navarro, Graduate Program Evaluation Committee, Chair  
 Joel Saegert, Academic Policy and Requirements Committee, Chair  
 Scott Sherer, Membership Committee, Chair  
 Kim Bilica, Graduate Programs and Courses Committee, Chair  
 Elaine Sanders, Nominating Committee, Chair  
 Shereen Bhalla, Student Rep

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**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES**

(CoA) Schuyler Costello	(CoPP) Mindy Wallen
(CoB) Russell Reeder	(CoS) Peter Anderson
(CoE) Yue Huang	(CoEHD) Shereen Bhalla
(CoLFA) Ashraf Alam	

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**PARLIAMENTARIAN Joel Saegert**

<p><b><u>COMPOSITION</u></b>          One member from each college and two at large, minimum of three members of the Graduate Council</p>	<p><b><u>NOMINATING COMMITTEE</u></b>  <b>(Appointed by the Council Chair)</b>          * Elaine Sanders, Chair          *</p>
<p><b><u>ACADEMIC AND POLICY REQUIREMENTS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* (1 year) Joel Saegert (CoB), Chair</li> <li>(2 years) Steve Temple (CoA)</li> <li>* (2 years) Norma Guerra (CoEHD)</li> <li>* (2 years) Patricia Sanchez (CoEHD)</li> <li>(2 years) Joo Ong (CoE)</li> <li>(2 years) Goutham Menon (CoPP)</li> <li>(2 years) Sandy Norman (CoS)</li> <li>* (1 year) James Dykes (CoLFA)</li> <li>* (2 years) Carolyn Ehardt (CoLFA)</li> <li>(1 year) Schuyler Costello, Student Rep</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>GRADUATE PROGRAM EVALUATION</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* (1 year) Sharon Navarro (CoLFA), Chair</li> <li>(2 years) Saadet Toker (CoA)</li> <li>* (2 years) Rudy Sandoval (CoB)</li> <li>(2 years) Hai-Chao Han (CoE)</li> <li>* (2 years) Branco Ponomariov (CoPP)</li> <li>* (1 year) Kathleen Mittag (CoS)</li> <li>* (2 years) Hongjie Xie (CoS)</li> <li>(1 year) Emily Bonner (COEHD)</li> <li>(2 years) Audrey Dentith (CoEHD)</li> <li>(1 year) Ashraf Alam, Student Rep</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>GRADUATE PROGRAMS AND COURSES</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* (1 year) Kim Bilica (CoEHD), Chair</li> <li>(1 year) Sue-Ann Permberton-Haugh (COA)</li> <li>* (2 years) Ram Tripathi (CoB)</li> <li>* (1 year) Can Saygin (CoE)</li> <li>(2 years) Paco Marcos-Marin (CoLFA)</li> <li>(2 years) David Johnson (COLFA)</li> <li>* (1 year) Mary Kay Houston Vega (CoPP)</li> <li>(1 year) Raj Wilson (CoS)</li> <li>* (2 years) Mary Zey (CoPP)</li> <li>(1 year) Mindy Wallen, Student Rep</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>MEMBERSHIP</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* (1 year) Scott Sherer (CoLFA), Chair</li> <li>* (2 years) Sedef Boganer (CoA)</li> <li>* (2 years) Elaine Sanders (CoB)</li> <li>* (2 years) Rena Bizios (CoE)</li> <li>* (2 years) Heather Trepal (CoEHD)</li> <li>* (1years) Gary Sunter (CoS)</li> <li>(2 years) Tansu Demir (CoPP)</li> <li>* (1 year) John Wald (COB)</li> <li>* (2 years) William Cooke (CoEHD)</li> <li>(1 year) Russell Reeder, Student Rep</li> </ul>