

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL  
ACTION MINUTES

December 2, 2003

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

The fourth meeting of the Graduate Council for the 2003-2004 academic year was called to order at 3:30 p.m. on December 2, 2003

**Present:** Ron Alexander, Mark Allen, Stephan Bach, Jerrell Cogburn, Dorothy Flannagan, Ted Skekel, Lila Truett, Robert Fuhrman, James Groff, Victor Heller, Jack Himelblau, Palani-Rajan Kadapakkam, Nandini Kannan, Raymond Padilla, Judith Sobre, Thomas Thomson, Jose Weissmann, Esther Wheeler, Robert Ayoub, Carol Brochin, Michael Frye, Christopher Borman, Andrew Perez, Raj Wilson, Olivia Yu, and David Mata

**Absent:** R.E.W. Adams, Adria Bodour, Thomas Bylander, Norma Cantu, Jan Clark Paul Cota, Mansour El-Kikhia, Marcheta Evans, Fathali Firoozi, Kolleen Guy, Han Hai-Chao, Fred Hudson, Kasandra Keeling, Michael Kelly, m Richard LeBaron, Randall Manetufel, Neil Maurer, Hugh Maynard, John McCarey, John McCray, Howard Smsith Armando Trujillo, Andre Tsin, Pablo Vila, Frances Courtney Kneupper, Amy Gilmour, and Tracey Johnson.

**Excused:** Eugene John

**Visitors:** Steven Levitt, Kent Wilkinson, Louis Mendoza

- I. Dr. Skekel called to order the fourth meeting of the Graduate Council for the 2003-2004 academic year at 3:30 p.m.
- II. The Graduate Council approved the minutes of the November 4, 2003 meeting.
- II. Reports
  - A. Council Chair (Ted Skekel)  
Discuss convened concerning the location of future Graduate Council meetings. After a brief discussion, Dr. Skekel announced that the Graduate Council would continue to hold its monthly meetings in distance learning classrooms (currently, BB 3.04.08 at the 1604 Campus; FS 2.532 at the Downtown Campus) for the remainder of the 2003-2004 academic year.

Dr. Skekel then brought up for discussion the survey of the proposed structural changes. Dr. Skekel indicated that he is continuing to collect data on the size and composition of the Graduate Council. He is working with the Committee on Academic Policy and Requirements on this matter. Results and options will be discussed in future Council meetings.

- B. Interim Dean of Graduate Studies (Dorothy Flannagan)  
 Dr. Flannagan offered an update on her discussions with Terri Sullivan, Executive Vice Chancellor, regarding UTSA's proposed graduate programs. Dr. Flannagan presented summaries of and justifications for the proposed programs. Dr. Flannagan reported that the vice chancellor was receptive and supportive of UTSA's graduate programs, and seemed enthusiastic about several of the proposed programs. The vice chancellor also offered constructive criticism on several proposed programs: Dr. Flannagan provided these comments directly to the programs in question.
- C. Secretary (Jerrell Cogburn)  
 Dr. Cogburn announced that Misty Sailors will be replacing Earle Reybold on the Committee on Graduate Programs and Courses, and that Michael Frye is replacing Venkataramana Reddipali as the student representative on the Administrative and Agenda Committee.
- D. Membership Committee (Eugene John)  
 No report.
- E. Committee on Graduate Program Evaluation (Victor Heller)  
 Dr. Heller reported on the status of evaluations. Dr. Heller recommended that the scheduled graduate program reviews (2003-2004) of two programs, MA in Counseling and MS in Computer Science, be deferred. The MA in Counseling program sought a deferral to 2004-05 to coincide with their external accreditation; the MS in Computer Science sought a deferral until 2006-07 to coincide with the review of the Ph.D. in Computer Science. Council accepted these recommendations.
- Dr. Heller also offered an update on the progress of the committee's work on other graduate programs up for review. Programs are beginning to submit their written reviews and most have identified their external reviewers.
- F. Committee on Graduate Programs and Courses (Marcheta Evans)  
 Dr. Skekel introduced two guests from the Department of Communications, Dr. Steve Levitt and Dr. Kenton Wilkinson, to answer Council questions regarding the proposal for the MA in Communications. In Dr. Evans absence, Dr. Skekel presented the committee's recommendation to approve the degree proposal. A motion was made to accept the committee's recommendation and, following discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

G. Committee on Academic Policy and Requirements (Stuart Birnbaum)

Dr. Birnbaum reported that his committee has been meeting via email. The committee has been collecting proposed changes to the bylaws. The most pressing of these proposed changes concerns the pending election for the Council's chair. The other changes being considered are relatively minor. The committee will report within 30 days.

IV. Unfinished Business

None.

V. New Business

Dr. Skekel reminded Council members that the first meeting of 2004 will be in February. He also warned that our meeting locations are subject to change, depending upon distance learning room availability in the Spring 2004 semester.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.