

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL
ACTION MINUTES

March 8, 2001

The sixth meeting of the Graduate Council for the 2000-2001 academic year was held in room 4.03.08 John Peace Library Building, March 8, 2001.

Present: Mark Alford, Stephen Amberg, Deborah Armstrong, Stephan Bach, Beverly Bunch, Thomas Bylander, Aaron Cassill, Glenn B. Dietrich, Juanita Firestone, Laura Levi for Daniel Gelo, Michael Gilbert, Fred Hudson, Maggie Jackson, Palani-Rajan Kadapakkam, Amir Karimi, Cynthia Katz, Hugh Maynard, Jeanne C. Reesman, Andrea N. Schreiner, David Sebald, Chia Shih, Ted Skekel, Ram Tripathi, Raydel Tullous, Amparo Villanueva, Diane Walz, Kenneth Wunderlich and Su Zhou

Absent: John Adams, Sos Agaian, Ron Alexander, Robert Bayley, Virginia Balderas, Blandina Cardenas, James Chambers, Brian Davies, Keith Fairchild, Larry Golden, Juan Gonzalez, Luis Haro, Michael Kelly, Alan Morris, Frank Pino, Mary Helen Pratte, Kasey Songy

Excused: Mark Allen, Frances Colpitt, Robert Fuhrman, Rosalind Horowitz, and Neil Maurer

Visitor: William Scouten, Cheryl Schrader, Esther Wheeler, Martha Lundell, David Heuser, and Joe Stussey

I. Call to order and taking of attendance

Dr. Armstrong called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February meeting were approved as distributed.

III. Reports

A. Council Chair

Dr. Armstrong reported her selection of the ad hoc Nominating Committee. (Per Article IX, 4.f of Graduate Council Bylaws.) Members of the ad hoc Nominating Committee will be Beverly Bunch, Aaron Cassill, Juanita Firestone, and Michael Kelly.

B. Interim Dean of Graduate Studies

1. Dr. Reesman updated the Graduate Council on the proposed doctoral programs in Business, Electrical Engineering and English that are presently under review. These programs are expected to be reviewed by UT System Academic Affairs in April, and are expected to go before the full Board of Regents at the May meeting.
2. Dr. Reesman reported that the BioEngineering degree is nearing completion. At a recent meeting at the UTHSCSA, the Coordinating Board met with representatives from the Workforce Technology Development Group, UTHSCSA, and UTSA. Extremely good feedback was received from the Coordinating Board on this degree program (specifically) and on the President's Bio-Technology initiative (in general).

C. Secretary

1. Dr. Walz expressed thanks to Dr. Tullous, who prepared the minutes for the last meeting.

D. Committee on Graduate Programs and Courses

- 1) Dr. Ambers reported that the proposed Ph.D. program in Music Psychology is under review by the Committee. The Committee is currently working with department representatives on this proposal.
- 2) Dr. Ambers presented the Committee's report on the proposed Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology as it appears in the Documents and Proceeding of the Graduate Council (Attachment A) page number 2277, and reported that the Committee has recommended approval of the program. The Council voted unanimously to accept the Committee's recommendation to approve the proposed Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology.

E. Membership Committee

Dr. Wunderlich reported the Committee's recommendations for special memberships from the Division of Behavioral and Cultural Sciences as listed in the Documents and Proceeding page 2278. The Committee also recommended Professors Raymond Padilla and David Hinojosa from the College of Education and Human Development for membership. These recommendations were accepted by the Council unanimously and are listed in the revised list in Attachment A.

F. Committee on Graduate Program Evaluation

Dr. Maynard presented the Committee's report on the Master of Music degree program, including a summary of the report from the outside reviewers. In this report, the Committee made four recommendations (see Attachment B). Dr. David Heuser communicated the feelings of the music department faculty about the first recommendation, which suggests that the department hire two musicologists and one specialist in opera/theater. Dr. Heuser suggested that the recommendation would serve the department's goals better if it were stated in a manner that would allow more flexibility. Dr. Maynard, speaking for the Committee, agreed to change recommendation 1 to say: "Hire three additional tenure-track faculty: one musicologist, one specialist in opera/theatre, and one other (unspecified)." The Council voted unanimously to accept the Committee's report and recommendations, as amended.

G. Committee on Academic Policy and Requirements

No report

IV. Unfinished Business

Dr. Beverly Bunch spoke about the Graduate Colloquium to be held on campus on Friday, April 6, 2001. She announced that five broad topics had been proposed for dialogue among the participants and requested input and participation from Council members. Sign up sheets for topic tables will be available.

There was discussion about the goals and purpose of the Colloquium. As the University moves to a Research status, faculty involved in Graduate programs and research are encouraged to meet with peers and colleagues to engage in discussions and explorations about the proposed new environment.

V. New Business

- 1) Dr. Ram Tripathi asked about the procedures for a non-substantive change to a degree program and expressed concern about some on-going difficulties. Dr. Reesman offered to send a copy of the guidelines, which include formatting documents, which she felt, would be of help.
- 2) Dr. Firestone asked if the Graduate Council membership would be altered in any way because of restructuring. Dr. Armstrong responded that the Council would be affected less than other groups because membership is structured by degree program, and not necessarily by academic area.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

ATTACHMENT A

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL & FINE ARTS

Special Members

Kirsten Gardner
John Giggie
Anne Hardgrove
Yolanda Chavez Leyva
Gregg Michel
Laura Mitchell

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Members

David Hinojosa
Raymond V. Padilla

ATTACHMENT B

The Council of Graduate Education
Program Evaluation Committee
Report

Master of Music

2001

The Master of Music degree program was reviewed by two excellent outside evaluators: Drs. Marvin Lamb (Dean of the College of Fine Arts at the University of Oklahoma at Norman) and Barry W. Johnson (Interim Vice President for Student Affairs at Lamar University). They reviewed the Music Graduate Studies Committee's self-study report prior to their campus visit on October 9th and 10th. They met with the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Dean of Graduate Studies, the Dean and Associate Deans of the College of Liberal and Fine Arts, the Division Director of Music, faculty and graduate students in the Division of Music, and the Graduate Program Evaluation Committee. They also toured and heard performances in the facilities. In addition to the Master of Music program, they also reviewed the proposed PhD in Music Psychology program. Their very positive report was based on both expertise and on-site information. It was a pleasure to meet with them and their advice is greatly appreciated. Their comments fall into four categories: faculty and students, facilities, communication, and the proposed PhD in Music Psychology.

Faculty and Students

The reviewers praised the strength of the music faculty and particularly noted their collegiality and concern for teaching and mentoring. The curriculum meets the stated objectives and mission of the program and the course rotation plan minimally meets the needs of the current cohort of graduate students. The reviewers recommended the hiring of three additional tenure-track faculty: two musicologists and a specialist in opera theater. They noted that there is currently one excellent musicologist responsible for both the undergraduate and graduate programs. Additional musicologists would distribute the workload, improve the frequency of course offerings, and broaden the background provided to the students. The evaluators agreed with the self-study in filling a gap in opera theater, but suggested that the tenure-track position in the instrumental area requested in the self-study was immediately less crucial.

They noted a stable enrollment of just under 30 students for the past four years. They particularly praised the recruiting efforts and the enrollment management plan for the number, quality, and distribution of students. Their only curricular recommendation concerned the quantity and diversity of podium time afforded the conducting majors. They specifically recommended that the music faculty develop a plan to increase graduate students' conducting experience with a variety of collegiate and professional level ensembles.

Facilities

Current needs have been met by careful planning of space utilization and a project to improve acoustics. However, the evaluators noted no available teaching, lab, or office space for the anticipated growth in faculty and students, particularly when the PhD program is implemented. Consequently they recommended that 1) the university allocate resources to address what they considered a severe shortage of space and 2) the music faculty develop a five-year plan to implement expansion of facilities. The reviewers also specifically suggested investigating more allocation of student services fees.

The evaluators supported the on-going plan to enhance library resources. They praised the funding commitment and the liaison (a trained musician). They recommended that the faculty receive and review library holdings and acquisitions in a timely manner in order to maintain their strengths and fill any gaps.

Communication

While praising the support of the Dean of Graduate Studies and the central administration for graduate programs in general and music in particular, the evaluators suggested improving communication between the music faculty and the central administration. In particular, they recommended that the faculty document their effective enrollment management plan and share it with the Dean of Graduate Studies. They also recommended that the guidelines for admission of international students be clarified. Finally they recommended that outside constituencies relevant to the graduate music program be invited to regular faculty meetings with published agendas.

PhD in Music Psychology Proposal

The reviewers were pleased by the research, thought, and detail of the PhD in Music Psychology proposal. They supported the feasibility of the proposal and were impressed by the commitment of the University to move toward flagship status and to support increases in faculty, facilities, and library resources. They specifically noted the collegiality shared between the disciplines and the desire for interdisciplinary cooperation. They also noted the importance of the Institute for Music Research. Their only concern was that the teaching loads are already sizeable and would be even heavier with the PhD program.

Recommendations of the Committee

In general, the evaluation by the outside reviewers was in substantial agreement with the self-study by the Division of Music on the quality of the graduate program and the vision for its controlled growth in the future. Specific recommendations to meet the requirements of that vision include the need for more faculty, more space, and the need for the music faculty to have flexibility to make decisions within clear guidelines about the graduate admissions policy for international music students. There is a strong commitment from the College of Liberal and Fine Arts and the Dean of Graduate Studies to provide the necessary financial and administrative support for the current Master of Music and the proposed Ph.D. in Music Psychology. The committee finds the overall evaluation of the program to be a very positive one.

In summary, the Committee on Graduate Program Evaluation makes four recommendations concerning the Master of Music program:

1. Hire three additional tenure-track faculty: a musicologist, a specialist in opera theater, and a third specialist determined by the music faculty.
2. The University and Department of Music should develop a five-year plan to increase available space.
3. The Music faculty should develop a plan to increase graduate students' conducting experience with a variety of collegiate and professional level ensembles.
4. The Office of Graduate Studies and the Department of Music should clarify the admission process for international students.