

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

May 3, 2011

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

Present: Gabriel Acevedo, Mark Bayer, Saadet Beeson, Kim Bilica, Rena Bizios, Amanda Chou, Bill Cooke, Santiago Daydi-Tolson, Samer Dessouky, Jim Dykes, Carolyn Ehardt, Dorothy Flannagan, Rhonda Gonzales, Richard Hartley, Yue Huang, Kim Kline, Myung Ko, Rebecca Krohn, Don Kurtz, Goutham Menon, Patricia Quijada, Joel Saegert, Elaine Sanders, Rudy Sandoval, Can Saygin, Scott Sherer, Howard Smith, Johnelle Sparks, Drew Stephen, Garry Sunter, Heather Trepal. Ram Tripathi, Lila Truett, John Wald, Hongjie Xie

Absent: David Akopian, Ashraf Alam, Peter Anderson, Shereen Bhalla, Branco Ponomariov, Russell Reeder, Mindy Wallen, Weining Zhang

Excused: Andrey Chabanov, Elizabeth Murakami-Ramalho, Sharon Navarro

Visitors:

Diane Walz Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, College of Business
Dana Forgione Graduate Advisor of Record, Business of Health

I. Call to order and taking of attendance.

Dr. Kim Kline called the May 3, 2011 meeting of the Graduate Council to order at 3:34 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes (Kim Kline)

The Minutes of the April 5, 2011 meeting were approved.

III. Reports

A. Council Chair (Kim Kline)

Dr. Kline provided a retrospective of the accomplishments of the Graduate Council this academic year. She cited the seven graduate program reviews conducted by the committee: PhD in Electrical Engineering, PhD in Cell & Molecular Biology, MA in Anthropology, MS in Math, MS in Psychology, MS in Applied Statistics, and MA in Spanish (today). She thanked Dr. Kim Bilica and her committee for reviewing the 2011-2013 *Graduate Catalog* and the *Information Booklet*. She also noted the approval of the Certificate in Technology Entrepreneurship & Management and the proposed Graduate Certificate in the Business of Health to be presented at this meeting. Dr. Kline reminded the Graduate Council of Dr. Scott Sherer's long-time service and the outstanding work of his committee this year: reviewing over 104 applications for Special Members of the Graduate Faculty and 12 applications for Adjoint Faculty. She also thanked Dr. Joel Saegert and his committee for the review of the outside member policy for dissertation committees. Trying to conduct our meetings in an efficient manner, Dr. Kline wanted to

complete each of our discussions in an hour. Our meetings ran over on only two occasions: once by four minutes and once by 15 minutes. Dr. Rena Bizios noted that those meetings were offset by meetings in which we adjourned early.

B. Dean of Graduate School (Dorothy Flannagan)

Dean Dorothy Flannagan gave no report in order to provide time for the other items on the Agenda.

C. Secretary (Jim Dykes)

Dr. Jim Dykes showed the updated list of Graduate Council representatives for the 2011- 2012 academic year (Attachment A). There are 19 members who will serve the second year of their two-year term. The Department Chairs have been conducting elections for the 19 members who will begin their two-year term next Fall. Drs. Michael McDonald, Michael Moyer and Garry Sunter were recently elected to represent Management, Counseling, and Biology respectively. Only two elections are pending: Educational Leadership and Art & Art History. Dr. Dykes also noted that Dr. Michael Cepek will replace Dr. Carolyn Ehardt who will be on leave at NSF next year. In addition to thanking the Chairs and representatives, he thanked Dr. Elaine Sanders for her excellent work on the Nominating Committee. Dr. Kim Bilica will be Council Chair next year and elections will be held for Secretary and Parliamentarian under New Business.

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

Dr. Kim Bilica thanked her committee for reviewing the proposed MS in Advanced Materials Engineering (Attachment A of the Agenda). While two of her committee members approved the proposal “as is”, four abstained pending the response of the Department to some detailed questions. The proposal will be discussed next Fall.

Dr. Bilica also thanked her committee for reviewing the proposed Graduate Certificate in the Business of Health (Attachment B of the Agenda). Dr. Kline introduced our visitors (Drs. Diane Walz and Dana Forgione) and moved to suspend our Bylaws in order to allow them to join our discussion. Her motion was unanimously approved. Dr. Bilica noted that her committee considered the 12-hour certification proposal innovative and recommended its approval. Dr. Hongjie Xie asked if certifications usually had a 15-hour curriculum. Dean Flannagan explained that they may be up to 15 hours without external approval, but that 12 hours is common. The proposal was unanimously approved.

E. Membership Committee (Scott Sherer)

Dr. Sherer presented the list of 24 applicants for Special Membership of the Graduate Faculty (Attachment C of the Agenda). All hold doctorates or the terminal degree in their area at the time (Master of Architecture and Master of Social Work). They were approved by his committee and unanimously approved by the Graduate Council.

F. Committee on Graduate Program Evaluation (No Chair)

Dr. Kline presented the one-year follow-up report of the MS in Electrical Engineering (Attachment D of the Agenda). She explained that Dr. Emily Bonner was the committee representative at the meeting. The program has responded to all of the recommendations. Dr. Kline especially noted that the program had provided more

funding for its students and more graduate courses taught by its faculty. The report was accepted.

Dr. Xie presented the program evaluation for the Masters in Spanish (Attachment E of the Agenda). He noted that this is the first graduate program review conducted under the new procedures (both undergraduate and graduate programs in a department are reviewed together). The review was of all programs in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, but our focus is the MA in Spanish. Dr. Xie explained that the outside reviewers recommended better and more predictable course offerings as well as more funding and teaching opportunities. While the students seem happy with the teaching and course offerings, the reviewers recommended taking a fresh look at the curriculum. While the faculty are well-trained and dedicated teachers, the reviewers recommended an increase in collegiality and more interactions with Bicultural / Bilingual Studies and Education in general.

The floor was opened to a lively discussion about this program review in particular and the general role of the Graduate Council in the new program review procedures. The discussants included Drs. Gabriel Acevedo, Bilica, Dykes, Ehardt, Flannagan, Kline, Saegert, Sherer, Howard Smith, John Wald, and Xie. With regard to this program review in particular, questions were raised about wording (“ageing” faculty and “old guard”), rotation of courses, and curriculum. A lengthy discussion focused on the impact of collegiality. One member expressed the perspective that a “dysfunctional” faculty will have a negative impact. Another member expressed the perspective that the faculty do not necessarily have to like each other if they are well trained and productive and if the students are happy. Everyone agreed that the Provost and the one-year follow-up should pay particular attention that animosity did not adversely impact graduate education. People who met the reviewers expressed the opinion that the reviewers were much more focused on the undergraduate programs than on the graduate program (which they generally felt was running fine).

The other part of the discussion considered the new procedures and the role of the Graduate Council. One discussant suggested that “If the assessment tool does not give us specific information we need, then we should revise the tool”. One member noted a lack of information about facilities and another asked about including a Graduate Council member at the entry and exit meetings. More of the discussion dealt with the role of the Graduate Council. The importance of the one-year follow-up was noted, but a number of people expressed the idea that simply accepting the report was not enough. A motion was made that the Committee on Graduate Program Evaluation be charged with examining the integration of the Graduate Council with the new review procedures and that the Committee make a report to the Graduate Council in the Fall. The motion was seconded and passed with 21 “ayes” and three abstentions.

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

Dr. Joel Saegert gave no report.

IV. Unfinished Business

Dr. Bizios commended Dr. Sherer for his excellent service, especially for revising the Special Member application and process. She also thanked Dean Flannagan and Ginger Hernandez. She was joined by Dr. Kline and the rest of the Graduate Council.

V. New Business

Dr. Kline turned the floor over to Dr. Sanders, who nominated Dr. Dykes for Secretary and Dr. Saegert for Parliamentarian. Both were elected for the 2011- 2012 academic year.

Dr. Sanders then surprised Dr. Kline with an award recognizing her work to better the graduate programs at UTSA. She referred to Dr. Kline as our “Guiding Star”. After a standing ovation, Dr. Kline said how much she had enjoyed working with the Graduate Council, referring to her service as an honor and a privilege.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:35.

Attachment A

Index	College	Department	Term	Term	2011 Representative	Substitute
1	Architecture	Architecture	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Sedef Doganer	Saadet (Toker) Beeson
2	Business	Accounting	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Elaine Sanders	
3		Economics	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Lila Truett	
4		Finance	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	John Wald	
5		Information Systems & Technology Management	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	Myung Ko	
6		Management	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	Michael McDonald	
7		Management Science and Statistics	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Ram Tripathi	Anuradha Roy
8		Marketing	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	Joel Saegert	
9	CoEHD	Bicultural-Bilingual Studies	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Patricia Sanchez	Howard Smith
10		Counseling	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	Michael Moyer	
11		Educational Leadership and Policy Studies	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	Election delayed	
12		Educational Psychology (New Program)	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Patricia Quijada	(replaced Norma Guerra Chair)
13		Health and Kinesiology	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Bill Cooke	Zenong Yin
14		Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	Kim Bilica	Kim Cuero
15	Engineering	Biomedical Engineering	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Rena Bizios	
16		Civil Engineering	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Samer Dessouky	
17		Electrical and Computer Engineering	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	David Akopian	
18		Mechanical Engineering	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	Can Saygin	
19	CoLFA	Anthropology	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Michael Cepek	replace Carolyn Ehardt (NSF)
20		Art and Art History	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013		
21		Communication	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	Sara DeTurk	
22		English	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Mark Bayer	
23		History	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	Rhonda Gonzales	Catherine Nolan-Ferrell
24		Modern Languages and Literatures	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	Santiago Daydi-Tolson	
25		Music	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Drew Stephen	
26		Political Science and Geography	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	Sharon Navarro	
27		Psychology	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Jim Dykes	Mike Baumann
28		Sociology	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Gabriel Acevedo	replaced Xiaohe Xu
29	CoPP	Criminal Justice	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Richard Hartley	
30		Demography and Organization Studies	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	Johnelle Sparks	
31		Public Administration	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Branco Ponomariov	
32		Social Work	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	Goutham Menon	Amy Chanmugam
33	Sciences	Biology	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	Garry Sunter	
34		Chemistry	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	Don Kurtz	Walter Ermler
35		Computer Science	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Weining Zhang	Qi Tian
36		Geological Sciences	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Hongjie Xie	Lance Lambert
37		Mathematics	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Amanda Chou	Gelu Popescu
38		Physics and Astronomy	Two Years	SEP 2011- MAY 2013	Andrey Chabanov	Lorenzo Brancaleon
39	Architecture	Student Representatives elected annually	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Rebecca Krohn	
40	Business	Student Representatives elected annually	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Jose "Jay" Vega	
41	CoEHD	Student Representatives elected annually	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Jennifer Stone	
42	Engineering	Student Representatives elected annually	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Mahdy Saedy	
43	CoLFA	Student Representatives elected annually	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Antonia Figueroa	
44	CoPP	Student Representatives elected annually	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	Clarissa Ozuna	
45	Sciences	Student Representatives elected annually	One Year	SEP 2011- MAY 2012	David Barraza	