

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO
DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL
ACTION MINUTES
ORDER OF BUSINESS
DECEMBER 1, 2015

Assembly Room
JPL 4.04.02
3:39-4:30pm

Present: Rahman Azari, Mike Baumann, Kinitra Brooks, Michael Cepek, Youn-Min Chou, Jonathan Clark, Alberto Cordova, Kevin Grant, Ruyan Guo, Jeff Halley, Seok Kang, Adolfo Matamoros, Margarita Machado-Casas, Lucinda Nevarez, Catherine Nolan-Ferrell, Chris Packham, Anuradha Roy, Corey Sparks, Boyka Stefanova, Drew Stephen, Joshua Thurow, Lila Truett, Melissa Wallace, Hongjie Xie

Absent: Mehdi Beygahi, Curtis Brewer, Dennis Davis, Doug Frantz, Shane Haberstroh, Jingqi Li, Rongjie Liu, Marcela Lopez, Barbara McCabe, Liang Tang, Daphne Villarreal, Jennifer Woods, Weining Zhang

Excused: DeBrenna Agbenyiga, Richard Armendariz, Brian Derrick, Yusheng Feng, Sharon Nichols, Elaine Sander, Marie Tillyer

Visitors: Janis Bush, Karen Daas, Teri Matiella

- I. Call to order and taking of minutes
The December meeting of the Graduate Council was called to order at 3:39 pm by Dr. Mike Baumann, Council Chair.
- II. Approval of minutes (**Mike Baumann**)
Dr. Baumann asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Nov. 2015 meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Dr. Catherine Nolan-Ferrell and seconded by Dr. Anuradha Roy. Motion passed unanimously. A motion was made to suspend bylaws due to visitors attending the meeting. The motion was made by Dr. Kevin Grant and seconded by Dr. Seok Kang. Motion passed unanimously.
- III. Reports
 - A. Chair Council (**Mike Baumann**)
 - Faculty Senate Update
Dr. Baumann discussed the issue of campus carry and locations where weapons would and would not be allowed.
 - B. Dean of Graduate School (**DeBrenna Agbenyiga**)
 - No Report
 - C. Secretary (**Dennis Davis**)
 - No Report
 - D. Committee on Graduate Programs and Courses (**Kevin Grant**)
 - Environmental Sustainability Certificate Proposal

Dr. Grant gave the Council an overview on the proposal for the certificate in Environmental Sustainability. Discussion followed the presentation. He gave an overview of the certificate, justification for the program, the review process of the committee and the results of the committee vote. The vote of the Committee is as followed: 7 approved, 0 disapproved, 1 abstain, and 0 recuse. Discussion focused on graduation requirements, double-dipping of coursework and length of certificate program will be offered. The Committees final recommendation served as a motion to approve the proposal and was seconded by Dr. Truett. Results for the vote were: 22 approve and 1 abstention. The motion passed.

- Revision to current certificate program in Historic Preservation
Dr. Grant gave the Council a description of the changes for the certificate program and justification for the changes, the review process of the committee and the results of the committee vote. The vote of the Committee is as followed: 8 approved, 0 disapproved, 0 abstain, and 0 recused. The Committees final recommendation served as a motion to approve the proposal and was seconded by Dr. Truett. The motion passed.

E. Membership Committee (**Michael Cepek**)

- Special Membership Applicant Approval
Dr. Cepek reported on the special membership applications reviewed by the Committee. Dr. Guo commented with a concern on the amount of time that overlapped from being a student to serving as a Special Member. Dr. Corey Sparks commented that as an applicant it is assumed they are an expert in the field. The Committee report served as a motion to approve the applications and was seconded by Dr. Truett. Results for the vote were: 22 approve and 1 abstention. The motion passed.

F. Committee on Graduate Program Evaluation

- No Report

G. Committee on Academic Policy & Requirements

- No Report

IV. Unfinished Business

- Consent Calendar
Dr. Baumann discussed the procedure for the consent calendar as listed in Attachment B in the agenda. A motion was made to approve the consent calendar being added to the agenda was made by Dr. Truett and seconded by Dr. Nolan-Ferrell and passed.
- Program Review
The Committee on Graduate Program Evaluation will be looking at the past external reviewer reports to see if there is a common theme in the program reviews.

V. New Business:

- Decision Desk
Dr. Drew Stephen expressed concern on the Decision Desk (new application system) has had on enrollment for Fall and Spring terms. Ms. Ginger Hernandez said she would discuss the Council's concerns with Monica Rodriguez, Director of Graduate Admission and Dr. Agbenyiga.
- Special Members

Dr. Gou expressed her concern with recent graduates serving on dissertation committees.

- **Campus Carry**
Concern Campus Carry may have on recruitment and impact on student's decision to attend UTSA. Some programs have lost students due to Campus Carry. It was recommended the Council encourage GAR's to submit comments/concerns to CAMPUSCARRY@UTSA.EDU about losing students over this issue.
- **GRE**
The Communication Department would to request to removal of the GRE and wanted to know what the process for the removal of the requirement. The process for changes requirements to admission requirements is a catalog change.

VI. **Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn made by Dr. Nolan-Ferrell and seconded by Dr. Roy. Meeting adjourned at 4:20pm.