

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO
DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL
ACTION MINUTES
ORDER OF BUSINESS
March 3, 2015

Assembly Room
JPL 4.04.22
3:30-4:14 p.m.

Present:

DeBrenna Agbényiga, Richard Armendariz, Mike Baumann, Mehdi Beyhagi, Kinitra Brooks, Michael Cepek, Youn-Min Chou, Alberto Cordova, Sara DeTurk, Kevin Eddy, Sonya Eddy, Jurgen Engelberth, Kevin Grant, Jeff Halley, Vic Heller, Eugene John, Myung Ko, Donald Kurtz, Adolfo Matamoros, Michael McDonald, Samuel Musen, Catherine Nolan-Ferrell, Malgorzata Oleszkiewicz-Peralba, Elaine Sanders, Jorge Solis, Johnelle Sparks, Rebecca Stortz, Liang Tang, Marie Tillyer, Ram Tripathi, Lila Truett, Hongjie Xie

Absent:

Liao Chen, Gloria Crisp, Anthony Escalante, Gerald Juhnke, Barbara McCabe, Thalia Rodriguez, Drew Stephen, Walter Wilson, Weining Zhang

Excused:

Rahman Azari, Dennis Davis, Yusheng Feng, Steven Hoffman, Mary Minor, Sharon Nichols

Visitors: Diane Walz, Nicole Beebe, Karen Daas

I. Call to order and taking of attendance

The March meeting of the Graduate Council was called to order at 3:32p.m. by the Council Chair Dr. Elaine Sanders. Dr. Sanders asked for a vote to suspend the by-laws in order to allow Dr. Diane Walz and Dr. Nicole Beebe to attend the meeting. Motion was made by Dr. Johnelle Sparks and was approved unanimously.

II. Approval of Minutes (**Elaine Sanders**)

Dr. Sanders asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 2015 meeting as written. The report stands as the motion. Motion was seconded and minutes were approved.

III. Reports

A. Council Chair (**Elaine Sanders**)

- Welcome Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School

Dr. Sanders introduced the new Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School, Dr. DeBrenna Agbényiga.

B. Dean of Graduate School (**DeBrenna Agbényiga**)

Dr. Agbényiga addressed the Graduate Council and expressed her enthusiasm for the position.

C. Secretary (**Dennis Davis**)

- Update on Elections for Council Members

Dr. Sanders delivered the report for Dr. Davis. Dr. Sanders reminded members to have their department chairs send the names of newly elected representatives to the Secretary.

- Nominations for Officers

Dr. Sanders described the election process. For chair, Dr. Mike Baumann has been nominated. For secretary, Dr. Dennis Davis has been nominated. Dr. Sanders opened up the floor for other nominations for these two positions. No additional nominations were brought forth.

D. Committee on Graduate Programs and Courses (**Kevin Grant**)

- Proposal for MS in Data Analytics

Dr. Kevin Grant gave the Council an overview of the proposal for the MS in Data Analytics in the College of Business. He gave an overview of the program, justification for the program, the review process used by the Committee to make its recommendation, and the results of the Committee vote. The Committee on Graduate Programs and Courses voted as follows: 7 approve, 0 disapprove, 1 recuse. Discussion followed the presentation. Discussion focused on the university computer/storage infrastructure for supporting large data analytic work. Final recommendation of the Committee served as motion to approve the proposal; seconded by Dr. Sara DeTurk; motion approved unanimously, no abstentions.

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

- Special Member Applicant Approval

Dr. Cepek reported on the special membership applications reviewed by the Committee. The Committee report served as the motion to approve the applications; the motion approved unanimously, no abstentions.

F. Committee on Graduate Program Evaluation (**Jurgen Engelberth**)

- No Report

G. Committee on Academic Policy and Requirements (**Vacant**)

- No Report

IV. Unfinished Business

- Update on the Review of the Bylaws

Dr. Sanders reported that she met with a committee to discuss these changes. Dr. Sanders would like to have time to discuss the changes with the new Dean of the Graduate School.

V. New Business

- Dr. Johnelle Sparks asked if there were funds available this year for recruitment of doctoral students. Dr. Agbényiga will look into this question.
- Dr. Adolfo Matamoros asked about the VIP program's GPA requirement of 3.33. He described a situation in which a student's initial college GPA is low, and although later coursework is higher, the student cannot meet the 3.33 requirement for recruitment into the graduate program through the VIP program. Dr. Sanders said she would move the question forward to seek clarification.
- Dr. Sanders informed the Council that Dr. Jan Clark passed away.

VI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Jurgen Engelberth; seconded by Dr. Johnelle Sparks; adjourned.