

Minutes of the Graduate Council

Date of Meeting: March 8, 2023

The March 8, 2023 meeting of the Graduate Council was called to order at 1:03 p.m. via Zoom by Dr. Randa Keeley, Chair of the Graduate Council.

Attendance:

Members: Patricia Bowyer, Lee Brown, Sandra Cesario, Rigoberto Delgado, Rita DelloStritto, Stephanie Evans, Helen Everts, Alyssa Fiss, Jordan Fuchs, Gretchen Hoffman, Carolyn Kapinus, Randa Keeley, Dundee Lackey, June Levitt, Mindy Menn, Anastasia Miller, Mindy Patterson, Noralyn Pickens, Pushkala Raman, Suzanne Sellers, Donna Scott Tilley, Laura Trujillo-Jenks, Wesley Tucker, Ann Wheeler, and Philip Yang

Substitutes: Jeff Radighieri for Derek Crews and Lin Zhou for Mark Tengesdal

I. MINUTES APPROVED

The meeting minutes for February 15, 2023, were approved.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORT BY DR. CAROLYN KAPINUS, DEAN OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Happy International Women's Day!

Admissions & Applications Update

- Summer completed apps are up 25% (+158). Accepted students are up 21% (+52).
- Fall completed apps are up 30% (+302). Accepted students are up 39% (+81).
- Thank you to those of you who participated in the very successful Pioneer Preview Day.
- We will now accept the Duolingo English Test for English proficiency. Applicants are required to have a score of 100 or higher. See the International Admissions website for details.

ChatGPT

- TLT is conducting a two part series in partnership with Curriculum & Strategic Initiatives.
 - o Part 1: Thursday, March 9, 2023 | 11 am - 12 pm
 - o Part 2: Friday, March 24, 2023 | 11 am - 12 pm
- TLT will record both [sessions](#) and make them available on their YouTube channel as soon as they are captioned.

Time in Dissertation and Student Success

- Dr. Mark Hamner and Dr. Michael Stankey will be sharing their analysis of patterns related to time in dissertation and student success.

- We will also share how the Graduate School is using this data to guide our interventions to prevent students from racking up excess dissertation hours and how advisors can use this data as well. The presentation will be held on **Wednesday, March 29 at 1 pm**. The Zoom link was sent out to all faculty on March 7. A reminder email will be sent out closer to the meeting date.

QEP: Amplify Your Impact

- The QEP focuses on graduate student public-facing communication skill building for the purpose of advancing community wellbeing.
- It uses public-facing communication, such as op-eds, podcasts, public lectures, online platforms and/or policy document development.
- In addition, the QEP fosters mentorship between faculty and graduate students through coursework/leadership opportunities with added resources for training, equipment, and technology.
- Look for future events that will help faculty and students learn more about the QEP. A Flyer about this is in the Google Drive.

Graduate Student Appreciation Week

- Graduate Student Appreciation Week is the first full week of April—April 2 – 7.
- The Graduate School will be planning events on all three campuses but feel free to plan events in your department/division or for your program to celebrate the work that graduate students do.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORT BY DR. RUTH JOHNSON, ASSOCIATE DEAN OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

- No report

IV. GUEST SPEAKER – DR. DIANA ELROD, CENTER FOR STUDENT RESEARCH

- The Center for Student Research (CSR) supports creative arts in addition to traditional research.
 - Both undergraduate and graduate students
 - Not just financial support, but also programming
- Workshop series in September, October, November, February and March
 - 2nd Wednesday of each of these months, 12:00-1:00 pm
 - Both in-person and virtual
 - Recorded
- CRA was founded in June 2018. Thank you to Dr. Scott Tilley for her leadership!
- There are competitive funding opportunities (fall, spring, and summer)
 - **Presentation Grant Program**
 - Maximum \$500
 - Publication costs, conference registrations, travel charges, etc.

- **Research and Creative Arts Grant Program**
 - Maximum \$500
 - Creative arts supplies, research supplies, incentives to research.
 - Cannot fund anything considered a service (e.g., transcription, statistics assistance, editing, child care, etc.)
- For the 2021-2022 academic year, over \$45,000 was provided for student presentation and research funding (22 undergraduate students, 71 graduate students, and one post-baccalaureate student).
- **Creative Arts and Research Symposium**
 - April 18th and 19th
 - 2022 data: 278+ student presentations
- **Work-Study Research Assistant Program**
 - The program is available to graduate students!
 - The goal is to help high-need students develop research skills and interests.
 - Federal government pays 75% of the student's wage, and the department/division or PI pays 25%.
 - The process is that a faculty member posts a research assistant position through the Career Center, and students who are Work-Study eligible apply through Handshake.
 - Dr. Kapinus thanked Dr. Elrod for bringing this up, as some graduate students think they do not need to fill out the FAFSA because they do not want to take out a loan; however, they may qualify for need-based aid. Encourage all students to fill out the FAFSA! Funds are limited, so those who apply first have the best chance.
 - It is preferable for these positions to be research-based, rather than clerical work.

V. SUMMARY REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

- Executive Committee - Dr. Randa Keeley & Dr. Mindy Menn
 - Gentle reminder that only members should vote in polls.
 - Time to elect a new chair and vice-chair. Please send nominations to Dr. Kapinus and Dr. Johnson.
- Research Committee – Dr. Patty Bowyer
 - Creative Arts and Research Symposium is on April 18 and 19.
 - The deadline for the Graduate Council Award for Exceptional, Original Scholarship was extended until this Friday, March 10.
 - The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs will be sending a list of symposium scholars.
 - There was a discussion at the Executive Committee meeting regarding adding other awards in addition to the Award for Exceptional, Original Scholarship.

- Academic Standards Committee – Dr. Ann Wheeler
 - No report
- Academic Programs Committee – Dr. Laura Trujillo-Jenks
 - No report
- Membership Committee – Dr. Alyssa Fiss
 - No report

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- Academic Programs Committee – Dr. Laura Trujillo-Jenks
 - New Women in Leadership post-baccalaureate certificate (fully online)
 - Voted on and approved.
 - New Fundamentals of Healthcare Administration post-baccalaureate certificate (hybrid)
 - Voted on and approved.
- Membership Committee – Dr. Alyssa Fiss
 - Approval of the committee’s faculty recommendations (six with Full status)
 - Voted on and approved.

Name	Component	Recommendation
Vadgama, Dimple	Human Development, Family Studies & Counseling	Full
Rivers, Alannah	Social Work, Psychology, & Philosophy	Full
Arnold, Amanda	Physical Therapy	Full
Karakkattil, Priya	Physical Therapy	Full
Sa, Jaesin	Health Promotion & Kinesiology	Full
Ennice, Joyce	Nursing	Full

- Academic Standards Committee – Dr. Ann Wheeler
 - Accelerated Program Policy
 - Discussion only with no vote.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- Academic Standards Committee – Dr. Ann Wheeler
 - Credit for Prior Learning Assessment Policy
 - Voted on and approved.
 - Dual Master’s Degree Policy
 - Voted on and approved.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: 1:54 p.m.

The next meeting of the Graduate Council is scheduled for Wednesday, April 19, 2023, via Zoom at 1:00 pm. Members and guests may receive the Zoom link to meetings from Ms. Danita Cantu at DCantu5@twu.edu.