

Minutes of the Graduate Council

Date of Meeting: November 15, 2023

The November 15, 2023 meeting of the Graduate Council was called to order at 1:02 p.m. via Zoom by Dr. Randa Keeley, Chair of the Graduate Council.

Attendance:

Members: Dayna Averitt, Ale Babino, Patricia Bowyer, Lee Brown, Sandra Cesario, Helen Everts, Alyssa Fiss, Jordan Fuchs, Gretchen Hoffman, Ruth Johnson, Carolyn Kapinus, Randa Keeley, Mikyoung Lee, June Levitt, Zhen Li, Rebecca Lucero-Jones, Mindy Menn, Kimberly Mory, Jonathan Olsen, Aaron Norton, Catalina Pislariu, Alondra Rayo-Vasquez, Suzanne Sellers, Annette Torres Elias, Mark Tengesdal, and Philip Yang.

Substitutes: Tushar Shah for Derek Crews.

MINUTES APPROVED

- The meeting minutes for October 18, 2023, were approved.

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

I hope everyone can get a little rest over Thanksgiving Break and recharge before the final push of the semester.

Application and Admissions Update

- Fall recap - graduate enrollment is down, particularly with regard to master's students.
- Spring completed application numbers are up 14%, the majority of this is an increase in master's applications (up 22%)
- Accepted applicants overall are down 2%
- We are still two months away from the spring semester start, so this could change

We had a very strong response to our virtual session "From ABD to Ph.D." We had almost 50 people join us by Zoom. If you or your student would like to view the session, please contact Danita Cantu (dcantu5@twu.edu) for the recording. Based on the strong response, I hope to have another virtual session in the spring on dissertation progress.

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

- Friendly Reminders:
 - The submission deadline is this Friday, November 17, 2023, for any student who has applied to graduate with a thesis or dissertation.
 - Certificates of Completion are a required document and also need to be submitted. We cannot process a student for graduation without it.

- Admission Criteria:
 - The department or programs need to check the admission criteria. Target X now has summer and fall open and it has dual information on those pages.

- Foreign Credential Evaluation:
 - Effective July 1, 2023, applicants are no longer required to provide non-U.S. transcripts and diplomas directly to TWU. A Course-by-Course evaluation prepared by a [NACES](#) or [AICE](#) member evaluation service provider is required. You can find this information on the [Admissions](#) page.

I am always available to answer your questions. Email me anytime. Dr. Johnson will be offering some Target X-related training sessions.

GUEST SPEAKERS

- Gretchen Busl/QEP - unable to attend due to emergency

SUMMARY REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

- Executive Committee – Chair Dr. Randa Keeley & Vice Chair Dr. Mindy Menn
 - There is no meeting in December. The meetings will reconvene in January.
 - Graduate Faculty applications are due December 1, 2023.
 - Thank you to those who volunteered to serve on the ad hoc committee.

- Research Committee – Dr. Patty Bowyer
 - No Report.
 - The committee is expected to be busy in the Spring.

- Academic Standards Committee – Dr. Lee Brown
 - No Report.
- Academic Programs Committee – Dr. June Levitt
 - No Report.
- Membership Committee – Dr. Alyssa Fiss
 - Faculty applications are due December 1, 2023, to be considered in January.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Membership Committee – Dr. Alyssa Fiss
 - Membership Committee recommendations for faculty status listed on page 2 of today's agenda – **voted on and approved**
2. Academic Standards Committee – Dr. Lee Brown
 - Accelerated Programs Policy (**discussion only, no vote**)
 - Graduate Academic Freshstart Program Policy (**discussion only, no vote**)

OLD BUSINESS

- None

ADJOURNMENT: 2:02 p.m.