

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

DATE OF MEETING: OCTOBER 16, 2013

The October 16, 2013 meeting of the Graduate Council was called to order at 1:18 p.m. in SH 308 by Dr. Katie Rose, Chair of the Graduate Council.

ATTENDANCE:

- Members: Mary Anderson, Sneha Bharadwaj, Josephine Chan, Karen Dunlap, Sarah Fanning, Jordan Fuchs, Mary Sue Green, DiAnna Hynds, Ruth Johnson (ex-officio), Mark Kessler, Larry LeFlore (ex-officio), Denise Maricle (substitute for Linda Rubin), Marilyn Massey-Stokes, Katy Mitchell, David Nichols, Maria Peterson, Gail Poskey, Katie Rose, Jessica Spain Sadr, Ann Staton, Brigitte Vittrup, Mary Thompson, Pat Watson (substitute for Nancy Anderson), Genevieve West, Anne Young, Vicki Zeigler
- Guests: Erma Nieto-Brecht, Chandan Prasad

MINUTES APPROVED:

- The minutes of the September 18, 2013 meeting were approved as disseminated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dr. LeFlore reported the following:
 - Dr. LeFlore invited Erma Nieto-Brecht to make an announcement regarding graduate recruitment events.
 - Approximately 70 programs/schools were represented at the Graduate Fair on October 15th. TWU had a strong presence.
 - A new graduate recruitment event has been added for the Spring. The Graduate Showcase is scheduled for March 1, 2014 on the Denton campus.
 - This event is population-specific; especially for graduate students.
 - The date is set, but she would like feedback on the sample promotional text that was distributed (see Attachment 3). Please share your ideas.
 - She will be glad to meet with individual schools, departments or programs to discuss different ways to “showcase” programs.
 - A \$1000 scholarship drawing is being offered as a promotional incentive.
 - Dr. LeFlore expressed his appreciation to all who participated in the Graduate Fair.
 - Federal requirements regarding “repeat” courses and financial aid were discussed at Academic Council.
 - Governor Jackson reported that TWU is in compliance, and he will be communicating with departments regarding this issue.

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

DATE OF MEETING: OCTOBER 16, 2013

- The Financial Aid Office will send warning letters to students who fall below a 3.0 GPA and to those who have taken more than 150% of the course requirements for their degree.
- The regulations are directed at repeated courses where there is no evidence of movement towards completion. Requests for graduate assistant overloads will be scrutinized to see if it will create a barrier to completion and why other students aren't getting the opportunity.
- There is additional scholarship money for new graduate students beginning in Spring 2014.
 - Forty doctoral and 60 master's scholarships will be awarded based on merit, not need. The awards will be \$1250 for Spring 2014 plus \$2500 for the Fall 2014/Spring 2015 academic year.
 - Students must apply by November 14th through the STARS program online. They also must be accepted into a program by November 14th. Applications are already being considered, so students should apply as soon as possible and departments should process acceptances for qualified students.
 - Awards will be made across disciplines and may be used to help grow programs.
 - Full-time enrollment is required, and recipients will qualify for an In-State Tuition Waiver.
 - These scholarships are from additional funds and will not impact funds set aside for Fall scholarships. Applications for Fall 2014 scholarships will be accepted beginning November 15th.

SUMMARY REPORTS FROM 2012-2013 STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Academic Standards Committee – Dr. Karen Dunlap, Vice-Chair

- Dr. Holly Hansen-Thomas, chair of the committee, was unable to attend.
- Beginning last year, the Academic Standards Committee has been looking into issues regarding Graduate Faculty Status. Since the last meeting, the committee reviewed a report by the Education Advisory Board which conducted a survey on the topic. Six universities responded.
 - 1) *Is it necessary to award Temporary status to Adjuncts?* Almost all schools have affiliate or temporary status for Adjuncts awarded for an indefinite period of time.
 - 2) *Is there an appeal process [when the desired status is not recommended by the Graduate Council]?* Yes, there was an appeal process by the department head and the Graduate Dean. Appeals did not tend to go any higher, and decisions of the department head and Dean were not overturned by those higher up.

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

DATE OF MEETING: OCTOBER 16, 2013

- The committee suggests Affiliate status for long-term Adjuncts and a need to involve departments early in the appeal process.
- Committee members expressed a lack of information or understanding of the categories for Graduate Faculty Status.
- The committee discussed that Graduate Faculty Status was not needed in order to teach graduate courses since TWU now has a separate credentialing system.
- The committee will discuss input from members of the Council such as:
 - There may be a need to have separate designations for new faculty and Adjuncts instead of having both groups apply for the same status (e.g., Temporary vs. Affiliate).
 - Graduate Faculty Status should be an honor and giving status to Adjuncts minimizes the honor.
 - Graduate Faculty Status should be reserved for faculty who want to serve on committees. Adjuncts should not receive a status that would allow them to serve on committees. If an Adjunct wished to serve on a committee, they could follow the same procedure used for external committee members.
 - Dr. Johnson offered her assistance to the Academic Standards Committee.

Membership Committee – Dr. Marilyn Massey-Stokes, Chair

- Dr. Massey-Stokes thanked the committee members for their considerable efforts in reviewing 25 applications.
- The committee recommended approval of the following individuals for graduate faculty membership:
 - Nancy Anderson, Reading, Full
 - Catherine Bailey, College of College of Nursing, Full
 - Amy Burke, Reading, Full
 - John Calabrese, Visual Arts, Full
 - Catherine Candler, School of Occupational Therapy, Full
 - Nancy DiMarco, Nutrition & Food Sciences, Full
 - Janet Foster, College of Nursing, Full
 - Barbara Gray, College of Nursing, Full
 - Patti Hamilton, College of Nursing, Full
 - Heather Haynes-Smith, Teacher Education, Full
 - Erron Huey, Family Sciences, Associate
 - Glen Jennings, Family Sciences, Full
 - David Marshall, Mathematics & Computer Science, Full
 - Judith McFarlane, College of Nursing, Full

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

DATE OF MEETING: OCTOBER 16, 2013

- Daniel Miller, Psychology & Philosophy, Full
- Mahmoud Sadri, Sociology & Social Work, Full
- Sally Schultz, School of Occupational Therapy, Full
- Susan Sheriff, College of Nursing, Full
- Chad Smith, Communication Sciences & Disorders, Full
- Shih-Chiao Tseng, School of Physical Therapy, Full
- Delaina Walker-Batson, Communication Sciences & Disorders, Full
- Ann Wheeler, Mathematics & Computer Science, Full
- Jerry Whitworth, Teacher Education, Full
- Philip Yang, Sociology & Social Work, Full
- Anne Young, College of Nursing, Full

Dr. Rose moved that the Council approve the recommendations, and the motion was approved unanimously.

REPORTS:

- Dr. Prasad made the following announcements:
 - The deadline for the Undergraduate Research Microgrant is this Friday at 5:00p.m. This program is open to all faculty in all colleges.
 - The Fall Funding Report is \$8.3 million, however, only \$1.2 million for research.
 - Dr. Prasad said one problem he sees is that a faculty member has a good proposal but lacks a track record. To address this problem, he is creating partnerships between TWU and other institutions as well as partnerships between researchers in different disciplines. The researchers will then publish papers together and be seen as legitimate.
 - There are decreases in funding from the Federal Government (e.g., \$1.3 billion cut from NIH), but Dr. Prasad believes the cuts will be selective and not across the board.

ADJOURNMENT:

- The meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.