Graduate Council Meeting
MINUTES

May 12, 2016
9:00 AM
Room LIB-220

Council Members Present
JoAnn Canales; Sherrye Garrett; David Gurney; Corinne Valadez; Thomas Naehr; Steven Seidel; Linda Gibson-Young; Joseph Mollick; Anita Reed; Dulal Kar; Frank Spaniol; Charles Etheridge, Pamela Greene,

Council Members Absent
Richard Smith; Monica Hernandez; Chris Bird; Glenn Blalock; Yolanda Keys

Ex-Officio Members Present
Corinne Valadez

Ex-Officio Members Absent
Catherine Rudowsky

I. Approval of Minutes from April 28 Meeting
Minutes from April 28 were approved unanimously.

II. Reports and Updates

A. Graduate Council Chair – Dr. Anita Reed
Dr. Reed thanked the Council for their hard work over the past year and for the privilege of chairing Graduate Council. The Council wished Dr. Valadez a Happy Birthday.

B. CGS Updates – Dr. JoAnn Canales
   i. CGS presentation to PC

   Dr. Canales presented the College of Graduate Studies report to President’s Cabinet, highlighting trends in applications, enrollment, assistantships, scholarships, graduate faculty etc.

   Dr. Spaniol stated that he was concerned about the rigidity of application deadlines and that the decision was made not to purchase the application module for Target-X. He stated that flexibility with regard to application deadlines is needed to allow students to apply in order to maximize enrollment.

   A discussion whether new graduate faculty should be allowed to be the sole chair of graduate committees followed. Dr. Etheridge stated that the Colleges should develop a mentoring process for new faculty. A statement could be included in the Graduate Faculty procedure or it could be left up to the Colleges.

C. Committee Reports
   i. Curriculum – Dr. Charles Etheridge
      1. Discussion/Action item: Proposal for new graduate certificate in Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling
         Curriculum subcommittee recommended approval of the certificate. Certificate was approved unanimously.

   ii. Rules and Procedures – Dr. Sherrye Garrett
      1. Action item: Graduate Faculty applications
         Rules and Procedures subcommittee recommended approval of the graduate faculty applications from COEHD and CSE as submitted. Graduate faculty applications were approved unanimously.

TENTATIVE FUTURE MEETING DATES:
2016: 08/25; 09/08; 09/22; 10/13; 10/27; 11/10; 12/08
2017: 01/12; 01/26; 02/09; 02/23; 03/09; 03/23; 04/13; 04/27; 05/11
D. Liaison Reports
   i. ITDEC – Dr. Richard Smith
      Not present, no report; CGS will report to ITDEC on May 13.
   ii. Faculty Senate – Dr. Corinne Valadez
      Senate has not met, no report
   iii. Library – Dr. Catherine Rudowsky
      Not present, no report

III. Unfinished Business
Dr. Canales asked the Council to report any issues with the catalog schedule to Dr. Sanford. Dr. Etheridge asked to schedule a meeting with Dr. Sanford to make sure the Council’s concerns are understood.

Dr. Naehr reminded the Council members to have the Colleges fill vacant Council seats in time for the beginning of the fall semester. Dr. Canales asked whether Council members are elected by the graduate faculty of each College. Most Colleges have Council members elected by all full-time faculty. The Council’s description on the Academic Affairs website states that Council members are elected by the graduate faculty of each College. Discrepancy will be addressed by Dr. Naehr.

Discussion followed about College representation on Graduate Council. Consensus among Council members is that each College should be as broadly represented as possible and membership should be spread among departments.

IV. New Business
Graduating Student Survey: Dr. Canales presented the questions on the current survey and will follow up with additional questions from the University’s survey of graduate students provided by PIR.

V. Matters Arising
Dr. Spaniol stated that the Kinesiology program will have graduate students reapply for assistantships every semester.

The Council agreed to put forward the following recommendations to the Provost:
   1. Examine how the University will communicate with applicants to graduate programs.
   2. Re-examine whether the use of ApplyTexas for graduate applications should be continued.
   3. Colleges should limit the use of new graduate faculty as sole committee chairs and implement a mentoring program for new graduate faculty.

Dr. Etheridge moved to present these recommendations to the Provost; Dr. Garrett seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

VI. Farewells
Council members who completed their terms received certificates thanking them for their service:
Dr. Anita Reed, Dr. Sherrye Garret, Dr. Glenn Blalock, Dr. Pamela Greene, Dr. Linda Gibson-Young, Dr. Richard Smith

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.