Graduate Council Meeting

MINUTES

Council Members Present: Suzanne Beltz, JoAnn Canales, Jack Cassidy, Bunny Forgione, Hongyu Guo, Cristina Kirklighter, Tim Klaus, Harvey Knull, Paul Montagna, Mary Kay Mortimer, Richard Shepperd, Sarah Sutton, Rebekah Thomas, Awni Zebda

Council Members Absent: Pam Brouillard, Michael Moody, Carey Rote, Scott Sherman, Robert Smith,

Council Guest Present: 

Council Guest Absent: 

I. Approval of Minutes from 1/22/09

Motion to approve: Beltz Second: Cassidy. Unanimous approval

Note: Canales welcomed Awni Zebda representing COB and Michael Moody representing Faculty Senate as new members of Graduate Council.

II. Committee Reports:

A. Graduate Faculty Committee - tabled for March meeting

A. Curriculum Committee

1. GSEN 5300, GSEN 5301, GSEN 5387, GSEN 5388 - tabled for March meeting

2. ENGL 5667 - recommended for approval - unanimous

3. MISY 5350 - recommended for approval - unanimous

III. Discussion Item - General Section Committee

A recommendation was made to modify the statement numbered 5 on page 65 regarding attendance of the dissertation committee members to read:
Oversight of the dissertation defense/final examination will be the responsibility of the dissertation chair. All members of the dissertation committee and a representative of the Office of Graduate Studies and Research will attend the dissertation defense/final examination meeting. One committee member, excluding the chair, may participate electronically. The dissertation defense/final examination meeting will be open to all members of the university community. However, at some point the dissertation defense/final examination meeting will close to permit the completion of the examination by the doctoral committee. The dissertation chair will submit a final report of the outcome to the Graduate Dean.

Motion to approve: Beltz; Second: Forgione. Friendly amendment: Cassidy. Unanimous approval.

IV. Fisheries and Mariculture Proposal

Joanna Mott introduced the proposal that would be submitted to the THECB requesting the name change and the use of two CIP codes to allow for the Fisheries and Mariculture courses to be offered in the program. Recommendations from the Council included:

1. p. 3 clarify issue of the number of students entering in fall 2008 and the “upward trend” with numbers presented subsequently in the text.
2. Make sure Appendices are attached.

Edits are to be forwarded to Knull and Canales who will then forward the proposal to the Provost's Office.

Motion to approve: Montagna. Second: Shepperd. Unanimous approval.
V. Designation of Graduate Faculty Policy
Knall presented the edits suggested by President’s cabinet.

1. change “recognized, acceptable degree common to that person’s discipline” to “terminal” degree – to be more consistent with SACS language

2. add text from SACS to 2.1.3.1 Eligibility section to read:
“Persons may qualify if they have attained the requisite academic credentials demonstrated exceptional scholarly or creative activity, professional experience or professional licensure and certifications, honors and awards, continuous documented excellence in teaching, or other demonstrated competencies and achievements that contribute to effective teaching and student learning outcomes.”

Motion to approve: Cassidy. Second: Shepperd. Unanimous

VI. Matters Arising

1. Cassidy raised the issue of allowing a “substitute” in the event that a Grad Council member could not attend. He will put forth a position statement for consideration by Grad Council. The issue of by-laws was also raised.

2. Cassidy is organizing yet another national conference on campus April 3-4, 2009 focused on Literacy Coaching. Knall recognized Cassidy for his outstanding work in bringing national and international recognition to TAMUCC and for affording TAMUCC faculty and students exposure to activities of such high caliber.

3. Knall provided a “brief trailer” of a future presentation focused on outcomes.

4. Sutton shared some insights gathered at a recent meeting on digital submission of publications at a TAMU conference. Additional information will be provided at a later date.

VII. Adjournment
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**Additional Information – Please bring catalogs to every meeting.**