

MINUTES  
GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING  
October 20, 2008, 3:30 PM

The Graduate Council met in the Dick Smith Library's Multi-purpose Room, with Drs. Rick Cruz, David Drueckhammer, Keith Emmert, Hussain Jafri, James Mueller, Kayla Peak, Carol Thompson, David Weissenburger, Roger Wittie, James Vardalis, Danna Beaty, Rusty Freed, Jeanelle Barrett, Henry Crockett for Dan Collins, George Mollick, Marcy Tanter, Sankar Sundarrajan, Matt Wickes as the graduate student representative and Brandon Shipman from COGS. Dr. Linda Jones presided. Not present was Sue Erwin.

Dr. Jones called the meeting to order and introduced new Council members, introducing Drs. James Vardalis (replacing Pati Hendrickson), Marcy Tanter (replacing Brian Fehler) and Matt Wickes (new graduate student rep from the Dept. of Mathematics). She asked for action on the minutes of the last meeting in September 2008 and a motion was made to approve by Dr. Wittie and a second was made by Dr. Thompson. The September minutes were approved.

TSU's new president, Dr. Dominic Dottavio, was invited to the Council meeting to share his views with Council members and Department Heads. Discussions included graduate program uniqueness, recruiting efforts, GA stipends, faculty salaries, off-campus programs and travel, the new technology of hybrid classes, scholarship and research, tenure and promotion, and summer school funding. Dr. Dottavio expressed support for the importance of graduate education and Tarleton's graduate programs and wants the University to strive to be one of the leading regional research-based institutions in the country. He asked that a list of the concerns be sent to him for further review.

### **Curriculum Items**

There were no curriculum items on this meeting's agenda.

### **Graduate Faculty**

A number of graduate faculty nominations were on this meeting's agenda.

#### **College of Business Administration**

Dr. Rusty Freed, Department of MMAS, presented for approval: Larry Garner from associate to full responsibility level, Wilke English for full responsibility level, David Geigle for associate responsibility level, Lucas Loafman for associate responsibility level, and Rick Simmons for associate responsibility level. Dr. Freed was approved for full responsibility level as per his Dean's nomination.

Dr. Hussain Jafri, Department of FAE, nominated Johnny Nelson for adjunct responsibility level.

#### **College of Education**

Dr. David Weissenburger, Department of CNSL & PSY, moved for approval of Samuel Fiala to associate responsibility level, Andria Schwegler to associate responsibility level, and

Brian Wortham to associate responsibility level. After discussion, the motion was made by Dr. Weissenburger to defer Brian Wortham's nomination. The move was seconded by Dr. Tanter and the motion carried.

In absence of Dr. Sue Erwin, Department of C&I, Dr. Jones presented Beverly Hay for adjunct responsibility level.

Graduate Council members were once again given a ballot for voting. Majority voted Approve, 10/11 faculty nominations carried (1 was deferred).

Dr. Vardalis, Director of Criminal Justice, gave the Council an insight of changes to come for the CJ program. He expressed concern with the low number of students in that particular graduate program. He commented that TSU currently has 300 undergraduate students and 10 graduate students in the Criminal Justice program. He has approval to divide the program into 2 tracks, 1. Professional and 2. Research. He strongly supports this move and has high hopes that this change will make that program and that degree more "marketable" to students.

Brandon Shipman spoke briefly on plans to transcript concentrations. He expressed that 12-15 hours make up a concentration and to email him to further information. He will resend an email requesting departments to identify those concentrations and the required classes

Due to time constraints, Dr. Jones ended the meeting with a few items on the agenda that were not fully discussed. She mentioned that TSU has 62 presenters and 14 faculty members attending the 2008 Pathways Research Symposium in Commerce and reminded everyone of the TSU Research Symposium to be held October 25.

Dr. Jones reminded the group of the next meeting date and hoped she would see everyone then.  
The meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
BS