

Minutes of the Graduate Council
Date of Meeting: September 15, 2021

The September 15, 2021 meeting of the Graduate Council was called to order at 1:19 p.m. via Zoom by Dr. Gretchen Busl, Chair of the Graduate Council.

Attendance:

- **Members:** Lee Brown, Gretchen Busl, Derek Crews, Rita DelloStritto, Jordan Fuchs, Sarah Gamblin, Holly Hansen-Thomas, Gretchen Hoffman, Ruth Johnson, Rebecca Keele, Randa Keeley, Dundee Lackey, Mindy Menn, Pushkala Raman, Gray Scott, Amy Burke (substitute for Sharla Snider), Suzanne Sellers, Noralyn Pickens, Annette Torres-Elias, Laura Trujillo-Jenks, Wesley Tucker, Ann Wheeler, Philip Yang, Margaret Young, Lauren Sepulvador.
- **Guests:** Vanessa Ellison, Shaunte Alvarez-Minor, Brandon Bush, Korie Hawkins, Jenna Lee, Jackie Karlsson

MINUTES APPROVED:

- The meeting minutes for April 21, 2021 were approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Report from Dr. Holly Hansen-Thomas:

Dr. Hansen-Thomas made the following announcements/reminders:

- Welcome Back! Thank you for your participation.
- Graduate enrollment: Enrollment numbers are doing well. Through the 12th day census, the total for fall 2021 graduate student enrollment is 5,956 in comparison to last year's enrollment of 5,678. The Total for graduate and undergraduate student enrollment is 16,238 which is actually a little lower than last year, but we made it up with the total graduate enrollment.
- US News and World Report: 5th in Texas Top performer in social mobility; diversity- 2nd in Texas and 4th in the United States; 33% Hispanic
- Excelencia in Education Sept. 10, 2021 — DENTON — *Excelencia in Education*, the nation's premier authority on efforts accelerating Latino student success in higher education, has selected Texas Woman's University's [PIONERAS program](#) as a finalist for its 2021 Examples of *Excelencia* award.
- Graduate students: Brandon Brock, one of our current TWU students, has been named to one of the Governor's advisory councils. Here's a snippet from the press release:

“Governor Greg Abbott has reappointed thirteen members to the Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome Advisory Council for terms set to expire on August 31, 2023. The council advises the commission and the legislature on research, diagnosis, treatment, and education related to pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome.

Brandon Brock, D.N.P., D.C. of Sunnyvale Texas is a doctorate level certified family nurse practitioner and a clinician at Carpathia Collaborative in Dallas Texas. Brock holds a Doctorate in Chiropractic from Parker University and a Doctorate in Family Nursing Practice from Duke University while having postdoctoral training as a Global Clinical Research Scholar from Harvard Medical School. He has also attended Duke Medical Center for specialization in orthopedics and has completed a fellowship in regenerative medicine. He is currently working on a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) at Texas Woman's University.”

- WoMentoring: Grant funded program funded through the Jane Nelson Institute led by Drs. Ann Wheeler, Jorg Waltje, and Hansen-Thomas. This program allows the support of 6 students for the next 2 years in graduate education. The students are:
 - Sandra Desjardins – Master of Library Science
 - Delaney Mallory - MBA Marketing
 - Kiarra Watts - Marriage and Family Therapy
 - Alondra Ammon - PhD in Occupational Therapy
 - Barbara McAlister - MFA in Dance
 - Charity Miller - Sociology - Social Stratification
 - Gabriella Sanchez - Multicultural Women's and Gender Studies
- COVID-19 testing: The clinic is open.
- Creating Positive Relationships Series: Drs. Annie Phillips-Munson, Abigail Tilton, and Shannon Scott (*Dealing with Difficult People and Uncomfortable Situations*) are presenting today at 2:30.
- Other university business: SACS re-accreditation and SEMC/SEP
- Events past/upcoming: Donuts with the Dean in August sponsored by the Graduate Student Council was successful. Library Graduate Study space reception is Thursday, September 23rd. The Graduate School Fair is September 28th.
- Information only:
 1. We have closed the Neurologic PT 12-hour certificate program.
 2. PT Houston will have a MOU with Prairie View.
 - This agreement establishes a partnership that unites the resources of PVAMU undergraduate programs and the TWU-H DPT graduate program. Under this agreement, two selected PVAMU undergraduates who apply to TWU-H DPT graduate program will be granted admission annually if the following criteria are met: Selected students for the physical therapy program are provisionally accepted pending the completion of all requirements. Transcripts must be sent after each semester prior to the beginning of the program in August of the matriculating year. Applicants must complete any remaining prerequisites with a grade of "B" or higher, as well as provide proof of a bachelor's degree posted on the transcript with both the prerequisite and last 60 hours GPAs.
- Other projects in Graduate Education:
 - 10-year review cycle
 - GA salary revisions
 - Virtual versus in-person defenses
 - Other language dissertations and theses

- o Updating the Graduate School website
- o Changes coming to Workflow

Report from Dr. Ruth Johnson:

- Self-Introduction
- Staff changes in Graduate School (new employee-Joshua Lopez)
- CRM/Target X update: CRM has not gone live yet. There are a few minor issues that need to be resolved before launching. Students will apply through this site instead of ApplyTX.
- Graduate Council: parliamentary role
- Graduate Assistant training
- Graduate School Q&A virtual sessions every 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 10 a.m.

Guest Speakers:

- Vanessa Ellison, President, Graduate Student Council
 - o Advocacy project
 - o Dr. Larry Leflore Leadership Institute
- Matt Moustakas, Executive Director, Risk Management
 - o COVID-19 testing updates

SUMMARY REPORTS FROM 2020-21 STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Executive Committee – Dr. Gretchen Busl

- Member, standing committee, and Chair updates

Research Committee – TBD

- Graduate Council Award for Exceptional, Original Scholarship

Academic Standards Committee – Dr. Ann Wheeler

- Graduate School policy updates

Academic Programs Committee – Dr. Laura Trujillo-Jenks

- Reviews new and revised Graduate proposal requests that are submitted through workflow

Membership Committee – Temporary Chair Jordan Fuchs

- Committee reviews applications for Graduate Faculty status

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1.) Academic Standards Committee – Dr. Ann Wheeler
 - a) New Policy–Theses or Dissertations Written in Languages Other than English
 - b) Revisions–TWU Policy on Final Submission of Dissertations and Theses
 - c) Revisions–Proposed Graduate Assistant Classification Levels
- 2.) Election of Membership Committee will happen electronically before the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: 2:34 p.m.

The next meeting of the Graduate Council is scheduled for October 20, 2021 via Zoom. The subsequent meetings are found on the Graduate Council website as follows:

- November 17, 2021
- January 19, 2022
- February 16, 2022
- March 16, 2022
- April 20, 2022

Members and guests may receive the Zoom link to meetings from Ms. Danita Cantu at DCantu5@twu.edu.