

Minutes of the Graduate Council

Date of Meeting: April 21, 2021

The April 21, 2021 meeting of the Graduate Council was called to order at 1:17 p.m. via Zoom by Dr. Gretchen Busl, Chair of the Graduate Council.

Attendance:

- **Members:** Erika Armstrong, Kevin Becker, Sneha Bharadwaj, Lee Brown, Gretchen Busl, Paula Clutter, Rita DelloStritto, Brian Fehler, Jordan Fuchs, Hui-Tin Goh, Holly Hansen-Thomas, Ruth Johnson, Rebecca Keele, Randa Keeley, Dundee Lackey, Hyuk-Jin Lee, Barbara McAlister, Mindy Menn, Sandra Murdock, Joel Muro, Mindy Patterson, Pushkala Raman, Suzanne Sellers, Noralyn Pickens for Theresa Smith, Sharla Snider, Annette Torres-Elias, Laura Trujillo-Jenks, Wesley Tucker, Ann Wheeler, Alisa Woods, Mahmoud Sadri for Philip Yang, Margaret Young.
- **Guests:** Shaunte Alvarez-Minor, Brandon Bush, Korie Hawkins, Jenna Lee, Lynda Murphy, Sully Saucedo, Laura Shackelford, Patricia Watson, Shane Broughton.

MINUTES APPROVED:

- The meeting minutes for March 17, 2021 were approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Report from Dr. Holly Hansen-Thomas:

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

- Graduate enrollment: Enrollment numbers are up with the spring semester having 5,836 students compared to the fall with only 5,769.
- Federation of North Texas Universities Symposium: Thank you all for your participation at the April 9th symposium event that was held virtually this year along with two other universities.
- TWU's Creative Arts and Research Symposium: The symposium is being held April 13-14. The committee and Tracy Lindsay have been working very hard. So far, we have 223 abstracts and 8 session times.
- TLT: Audrey Lundahl is offering all GTAs and those considering being GTAs the opportunity to engage in a professional development opportunity being offered in the summer and to obtain Quality Matters certification.
- Texas Engineering Extension Collaborative: We are part of a consortium with A&M. If a faculty member has interest in connecting with other researchers throughout the state, they could potentially get up to \$10,000 for that research. Please contact Dr. Holly Hansen-Thomas if you would like more information.
- Graduate Assistant Fact Sheet: Dr. Ann Wheeler is working on the fact sheet and will be added to the Graduate School website very soon.

- IRB: As an institution, we are very close to becoming part of the Smart IRB which is essentially an IAA process. This is most relevant to the Houston campus, but the partnership will help facilitate our research for both researchers and graduate students.
- Friendly reminder: Please attend to the applicants in your graduate programs and clear out any queues.
- Schweitzer Fellowship: We have selected two winners, Paloma Silva and Tamara Starlin.
- Graduate Council: There was a hands-only poll about future face to face, hybrid or virtual only meetings.
- Graduate Council: There was an overview of accomplishments from 2020-2021.
- Thanks: Thank you from the Dean for those that are rolling off and to all of those who participated.

Report from Dr. Ruth Johnson:

- Enrollment numbers are up. As of Friday, there were 976 applications that have been sent to your department queues. Please remember to make some sort of outreach or contact with the applicants.
- CRM update: It is progressing. We now have all of the programs in the system, and we will be meeting next week with the Target X folks to put on some of the final things. The goal is to be up and running by June 1st so that when the July deadline starts, we will be able to admit students through the CRM.
- Graduate Catalog: working on finalizing the catalog.

Guest Speaker:

- Laura Shackelford, Career Connections
 - Discussed services that Career Connections has to offer and resource information.

SUMMARY REPORTS FROM 2020-21 STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Executive Committee – Dr. Gretchen Busl

- Thank you to all for your participation.
- Thank you to all of the Executive Committee members.
- Friendly reminder that the Executive Committee might have to convene during the summer.

Research Committee – Dr. Sneha Bharadwaj

- No Report
- Thank you to all committee members with the process of reviewing applications for the Chancellor's Research Scholar award and the Graduate Council award in such a short time.

Academic Standards Committee – Dr. Ann Wheeler

- No Report

- Thank you to the committee this academic year for going over quite a few policies. There are still many policies to go over and feel that we can get it done next year.

Academic Programs Committee – Dr. Laura Trujillo-Jenks

- No Report
- Thank you to all committee members.

Membership Committee - Dr. Kevin Becker

- No Report
- Thank you to all committee members.

Unfinished Business:

- Academic Standards – Dr. Ann Wheeler
 - a) Final Examination in Master's Degree Programs
 - GC members voted and approved the proposed policy.
 - b) iTeach
 - GC members voted, and the proposed policy did not pass.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Membership Committee, **Dr. Kevin Becker**

- Members voted on and approved.

Name	Component	Recommendation
Kathleen Ellis	Nursing	Associate
JaNiece Elzy	Literacy and Learning	Associate
Stephanie Evans	Nursing	Associate
Nina Fredland	Nursing	Full
Jordan Fuchs	Dance	Full
Aimee Hendrix	Literacy and Learning	Associate
Ngozi Mbue	Nursing	Full
Angeles Nava	Nursing	Associate
Robby Petros	Chemistry	Full

Heather Roberts	Occupational Therapy	Full
Mary Williford-Shade	Dance	Full
Joel Muro	Counseling and Development	Full

B. Academic Standards Committee, Dr. Ann Wheeler

- No new policies for review.

C. Academic Programs Committee, Dr. Laura Trujillo-Jenks

- Literacy & Learning/ Reading Education: Ph.D. revision proposal (reduction 90 to 72 hours) – Dr. Patricia Watson
 - Graduate Council members voted and approved the proposal.
- MS in Education of the Deaf revisions (33 hrs for all students) – Dr. Erika Armstrong
 - Graduate Council members voted and approved the proposal.
- MS Health Studies: Accelerated track revision – Dr. Erika Armstrong
 - Graduate Council members voted and approved the proposal.
- Nutrition & Food Sciences – Dr. Shane Broughton and Dr. Wesley Tucker
 - Graduate Council members voted and approved the proposal.

D. Elections

- A Google document will be sent to everyone to vote on for the GC Chair and Vice Chair positions. We will have results by 5 p.m. today.

ADJOURNMENT: 2:47 p.m.

The next meeting of the Graduate Council is scheduled for September 15, 2021 via Zoom. The subsequent meetings are found on the Graduate Council website as follows:

- October 20, 2021
- 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.