

Minutes of the Graduate Council
Date of Meeting: November 18, 2020

The November 18, 2020 meeting of the Graduate Council was called to order at 1:16 p.m. via Zoom by Dr. Gretchen Busl, Chair of the Graduate Council.

Attendance:

- **Members:** Erika Armstrong, Kevin Becker, Sneha Bharadwaj, Wayne Brewer, Lee Brown, Gretchen Busl, Paula Clutter, Rita DelloStritto, Jordan Fuchs, Ruth Johnson (ex-officio), Rebecca Keele, Randa Keeley, Dundee Lackey, Hyuk-Jin Lee, Sandhya Manjunath, Barbara McAlister, Mindy Menn, Sandra Murdock, Joel Muro, Mindy Patterson, Pushkala Raman, Claire Sahlin (ex-officio), Suzanne Sellers, Theresa Smith, Sharla Snider, Annette Torres-Elias, Laura Trujillo-Jenks, Wesley Tucker, Ann Wheeler, Alisa Woods, Philip Yang, Margaret Young
- **Guests:** Clare Brock, Brandon Bush, Holly Hansen-Thomas, Korie Hawkins, Shelley Hawkins, AnaLouise Keating, Jenna Lee, Rosalie Mainous, Lynda Murphy, Jonathan Olsen, Sully Saucedo, Terry Senne, Juliet Spencer, Genevieve West

MINUTES APPROVED:

- The meeting minutes for October 21, 2020 were approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Report from Dr. Claire Sahlin:

Dr. Sahlin thanked the Graduate Council for working with her as she served as Interim Dean of the Graduate School for the past 18 months and welcomed Dr. Holly Hansen-Thomas as the Vice Provost for Research and Innovation and new Dean of the Graduate School. Dr. Sahlin also made the following announcements:

- Students may apply to participate in the Schweitzer Fellowship Program, which provides students with mentoring opportunities to create programs addressing health and wellbeing needs within communities. Applications are due on Friday, January 22, 2021.
- The deadline to submit a proposal to revise a graduate program in time for the Fall 2021 catalog is Friday, February 19, 2021. Earlier submissions are welcome.
- Korie Hawkins and Shaunte Alvarez-Minor in the TWU Office of Admissions are available to support departmental initiatives to recruit new graduate students.
- The Office of Student Life will be offering an orientation for new graduate students online via Canvas during the week prior to the spring semester.

Report from Dr. Ruth Johnson:

- An ad hoc committee was created to examine policies concerning where graduate students may be permitted to do their teaching and/or other work as a graduate assistant.
 - Ad hoc committee members are from each college, and they are Erika Armstrong, Karen Dunlap, Jordan Fuchs, Damon Cottrell, Mindy Menn, Barbara BenEzra, and Margaret Young. The committee has already met twice and will meet again

this week. A comparison of the graduate policy to what is in the graduate catalog is taking place, along with cleaning up the catalog and making recommendations.

- Questions have been taken back to each members' department for feedback and ideas.
- CRM (Customer Relationship Management)
 - Phase 1 is complete and we are moving into Phase 2, which is more involved in the development of the new CRM. It is more intensive and very demanding as far as things to put together. If you get called upon for feedback and information, please submit the information to Ruth Johnson.
 - Part of the goal is to have a student submit their graduate application through the CRM and not ApplyTexas. What questions you ask on the application will be added specifically for your department. We will need help compiling this information.
- Graduate numbers are looking good for spring. We just need to get all the departments to get their current students enrolled so that we don't lose students and to follow up with students who have been accepted but haven't yet enrolled.

GUEST SPEAKER:

- Michelle Reeves, Director of Health and Wellbeing, spoke about the activities of the TWU Health and Wellbeing Initiative.

SUMMARY REPORTS FROM 2020-21 STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Executive Committee – Dr. Gretchen Busl

- No Report

Research Committee – Dr. Sneha Bharadwaj

- No Report

Academic Standards Committee – Dr. Ann Wheeler

- The committee met and is reviewing policies.

Academic Programs Committee – Dr. Laura Trujillo-Jenks

- No Report

Membership Committee - Dr. Kevin Becker

- No Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Academic Standards Committee, Dr. Ann Wheeler
 - A discussion of the Policy on Accelerated Graduate Degree Programs took place. The policy will continue to be discussed and reviewed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Membership Committee – Dr. Kevin Becker made recommendations for graduate faculty.
- Graduate Council members voted on and approved the following four full graduate faculty members.

Name	Component	Recommendation
Marlene Williams	Psychology	Full
Christina Bejarano	Political Science	Full
Cynthia Gill	Communication Sciences and Oral Health	Full
June Levitt	Communication Sciences and Oral Health	Full

- B. Academic Programs Committee, Dr. Laura Trujillo-Jenks
- Proposal to revise the PhD in Molecular Biology by deleting CHEM 5623, Advanced Biochemistry II from required coursework
 - Dr. Juliet Spencer was present for questions.
 - Graduate Council members voted on and approved the proposal.

 - Proposal to revise the PhD in Multicultural Women’s and Gender Studies by reducing the total number of semester credit hours from 90 to 72
 - Dr. AnaLouise Keating and Dr. Genevieve West were present for questions.
 - Graduate Council members voted on and approved the proposal.

 - Proposal for an accelerated B.A.-M.A. degree in Political Science
 - Dr. Clare Brock and Dr. Jonathan Olsen were present for questions.
 - Graduate Council members voted on and approved the proposal.

 - Proposal to revise the Post-baccalaureate Certificate in History by changing the distribution of courses
 - Dr. Jonathan Olsen was present for questions.
 - Graduate Council members voted on and approved the proposal.

 - Proposal to revise the DNP degree
 - Dr. Rosalie Mainous, Dr. Shelley Hawkins, and Dr. Cheryl Thaxton were present for questions.
 - Graduate Council members voted on and approved the proposal.

ADJOURNMENT: 2:21 p.m.