

Minutes of the Graduate Council

Date of Meeting: October 20, 2021

The October 20, 2021 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:** Kevin Becker, Patricia Bowyer, Lee Brown, Brookelyn Bush, Gretchen Busl, Derek Crews, Rita DelloStritto, Helen Everts, Alyssa Fiss, Jordan Fuchs, Sarah Gamblin, Holly Hansen-Thomas, Gretchen Hoffman, Randa Keeley, Jackie Hoermann-Elliott (for Dundee Lackey), June Levitt, Mindy Menn, Brigitte Vittrup (for Joel Muro), Noralyn Pickens, Pushkala Raman, Sharla Snider, Suzanne Sellers, Annette Torres-Elias, Laura Trujillo-Jenks, Wesley Tucker, Ann Wheeler, Philip Yang, Margaret Young, Lauren Sepulvador.
- **Guests:** Shaunte Alvarez-Minor, Lynda Murphy, Jenna Lee, Jackie Karlsson, Sully Saucedo, Barbara Muszynska, Nancy Anderson

MINUTES APPROVED:

- The meeting minutes for September 15, 2021 were approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Report from Dr. Holly Hansen-Thomas:

Dr. Hansen-Thomas made the following announcements and updates:

- Graduate and Professional Fair from September 28th went well, and there was a good turnout. Shaunte Alvarez-Minor, Korie Hawkins, and other staff and faculty members organized the event.
- The graduate student study space reception at the Library went well. Remind your graduate students that they have this space that they can utilize and gain entry by swiping their ID card.
- Recognition and a shout out to all of the Graduate Council Executive Committee members and Danita for all of their work in getting everything ready for Graduate Council.
- Graduate School Newsletter: Contact Scott Wright if you would like to receive this newsletter that comes with good information, updates, and important deadline dates.
- Strategic Enrollment Prioritization Committee: This is a large committee collaborating with RNL. We have 30 faculty and staff members volunteering and working on sub-committees. I appreciate all of the help.
- Association of Texas Graduate Schools meeting: Some data that was provided at this meeting; Ph.D. students are down throughout the nation with 3.84% nationwide and 1.6% in Texas. Numbers for racially diverse students and women are up in the nation and the

state of Texas. Our state numbers continue growing. From 2010-2020, the population coming to universities grew more than any other state in the nation. There is a 1.1% unemployment rate for people with doctoral degrees.

- Ph.D. Education, Leadership, and Organization update: Dr. Laura Trujillo-Jenks, Dr. Lisa Huffman and others in COPE presented. We have one more meeting tomorrow and hope to gain approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.
- Three Minute Thesis (3MT): The event will be held virtually this year. In collaboration with Advancement, we have accessed funding for the winners. 1st place will receive \$750, 2nd place \$500, and 3rd place \$250. There will be no People's Choice award this time since it is being held virtually. Pioneer Center's Christine Torres in Houston is overseeing this event. The winner will travel with the Graduate School Dean to the Council of Southern Graduate Schools (CSGS) meeting in North Carolina in February 2022.
- Faculty Research Incentive Program (FRIP): The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) is introducing the Faculty Research Incentive Program (FRIP), which aims to recognize and reward recipients who have received external funding. FRIP will allow Texas Woman's University to provide incentive payments to faculty who receive external funding and charge a portion of their salary to the external funds. See the FRIP Information Sheet for all the details found on the ORSP website. You can possibly receive a payout of up to 25% of the salary savings that you will bring into the university.
- Introduction of Barbara Muszynska. She is a Fulbrighter, full time faculty member from Poland. She and her family will be here through February of next year. Please invite her to anything that you think she will be interested in.

Report from Dr. Ruth Johnson:

- Update provided by Dr. Holly Hansen-Thomas: Target X is moving forward.

SUMMARY REPORTS FROM 2020-21 STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Executive Committee – Dr. Gretchen Busl

- Brief overview of what is to come for today's meeting.

Research Committee – Dr. Patricia Bowyer

- No Report

Academic Standards Committee – Dr. Ann Wheeler

- At the last meeting, we had policies that were discussed; 2 revisions and 1 new. There were concerns about the language about the new policy, and the committee made some changes. We will look at two of those policies today and potentially go forward with a vote. We will designate some time to discuss the Graduate Assistant Classification Levels policy for discussion.

Academic Programs Committee – Dr. Laura Trujillo-Jenks

- No Report

Membership Committee – Co- Chairs Dr. Kevin Becker / Jordan Fuchs ● Dr. Becker will focus more on the graduate faculty classifications potentially proposing some changes.

- Jordan Fuchs will work primarily with the rest of the committee members on the incoming faculty applications.
- Faculty application update: The graduate faculty applications are in the final stages of being available using the workflow site which will help streamline the process.
- RCR certificate: The Basic/Refresher course required for the IRB certificate is being submitted instead of the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training. This is commonly confused as they are similar trainings.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1.) Academic Standards Committee - Dr. Ann Wheeler
 - a) New Policy-Theses or Dissertations Written in Languages Other than English
 - Voted on and Approved
 - b) Revisions-TWU Policy on Final Submission of Dissertations and Theses
 - Voted on and Approved
 - c) Revisions-Proposed Graduate Assistant Classification Levels
 - Discussed and will potentially vote on in November

NEW BUSINESS:

- 2.) Election of Membership Committee – Jordan Fuchs
 1. Approval of the Membership Committee’s 10 faculty recommendations: ● 8 Full/ 2 Associate applications were voted on and approved

Name	Component Recommendation
Adesola Akinleye	Dance Associate

Jacquelyn Hoermann-Elliott	Rhetoric Full
Rebecca Lucero Jones	HDFSC Full

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Deltra Muoki	Nursing Associate
Maria Peterson-Ahmad	Special Education Full
Noralyn Pickens	Occupational Therapy Full
Misty Richmond	Nursing Full
Kerri Staples	Health Promotion & Kinesiology Full

Elaine Trudelle-Jackson Physical Therapy Full Wesley Tucker Nutrition and Food Sciences Full

2. There is pending information for 8 applications. We will hold an electronic vote for these once the missing items are submitted.

ADJOURNMENT: 2:32 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.