

**MEETING OF THE GRADUATE ASSEMBLY  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON**

**DATE:** February 7, 2013  
**TIME:** 2:35 pm  
**PLACE:** San Saba Room, University Center  
**PRESIDING:** Jennifer Gray, Vice Chair

**ATTENDING:** Mindi Anderson, Saimak Ardekani, Pranesh Aswath, Krystal Beamon, Jennifer Gray, Ron Hissong, Raymond Jackson, Christopher Kribs-Zaleta, Peter Kroll, Steve Mattingly, Taner Ozdil, Sophia Passy, Mark Ricard, Douglas Stotter, Marianna Vallejo

Guest(s): Clint Chamberland for Rebecca Bichel, Donia Chehade from the Shorthorn, Paul Krawietz

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting of the Graduate Assembly was called to order at 2:35 pm by Vice-Chair, Dr. Jennifer Gray.

**II. Introductions**

Dr. Gray welcomed and introduced guests to the Graduate Assembly.

**III. Consideration of Minutes**

Minutes from the October 4, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved.

**IV. Report from the Graduate Dean – Dr. David Silva**

Not available for the meeting.

**Update from Associate Graduate Dean – Dr. Raymond Jackson**

Dr. Jackson, noted that if Dr. Cohen were present he would commend the GA as a body who promotes and develops graduate students on this Campus as shown by your commitment.

Dr. Jackson noted Dr. Silva is the interim Dean in the Graduate School during the Office of the Provost's reorganization. Everything continues to move forward and business as usual.

## **V. Committee Reports**

### **A. Committee on Program Creation – Dr. Jennifer Gray, Chair**

- Proposal for Establishment of a Masters of Construction Management Degree, Department of Civil Engineering.

This is an interdisciplinary degree that meets a community need. Dr. Najafi is the program director. This will not be a Civil Engineering Program but a professional program without a thesis option. This may require approval of the THECB. This is a 30 hour degree and will not be a fast track program. The core courses, instructors and graduate committee need to be clarified and determined.

The Proposal for a Master of Construction Management Degree was returned to the committee for additional clarification related to the use of adjuncts, rationale for taking courses in other disciplines, and the composition of the Graduate Studies Committee that would be responsible for the curriculum of the program.

### **Committee on Graduate Students – Dr, Pranesh Aswath**

#### **B. Chair**

Milestone Agreement Form - The Milestone Agreement form has been in committee to draft the language to address the mandate from UT Systems as well language that did not create a contractual agreement between the graduate advisor and graduate student. The intent of the agreement is to create an expectation between the doctoral student, graduate advisor during their first semester.

Dr. Jackson will meet with OGS staff to determine a business process for the agreement and also review possible electronic process.

The Milestone Agreement Form was unanimously approved.

#### **C. Committee on Program Revision – Dr. Mark Ricard, Chair**

No report.

## **VII. Report of Graduate Student Senate Representative – Mariana Vallejo**

The following GSS concern was noted: The GSS met and reviewed the

renovation plans for the University Centers' renovation to Bowling and Billards in an effort to provide administration with their input The senate may request a Town Hall type meeting to have further discussions. The GSS also noted the GSS is very passionate about the Milestone Agreement and believes the current agreement does not meet the goals of the graduate student, graduate advisor and department chairs. Student believe that the agreement should be more specific for PhD. students

**VIII. New Business**

2013 ACES is scheduled on Wednesday, March 27, 2013 in the University Center. Please share with your departments.

**IX. Old Business**

No report.

**X. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:18 pm.

Respectful Submitted  
Jennifer Knight  
Executive Assistant to the Dean  
Office of Graduate Studies  
GA 02072013