

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

DATE: October 2, 2014
TIME: 2:35 pm
PLACE: San Saba Room, University Center
PRESIDING: Stephen Mattingly, Presiding Chair

ATTENDING: Gail Adorno, Deborah Behan, Kathy Daniel, Jennifer Gray, Rod Hissong, Raymond Jackson, David Keller, Peter Kroll, Wasiu Lawal, Stephen Mattingly, Taner Ozdil, Nancy Palmeri, Mohan Pant, Terry Skantz, Panos Shiakolas, Douglas Stotter, Dale Wasson

Guest(s): Sonja Watson, Women's and Gender Studies, Erian Armanios, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

I. Call to Order

The meeting of the Graduate Assembly was called to order at 2:35 pm by chair, Dr. Stephen Mattingly.

II. Introductions

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

III. Consideration of Minutes

Minutes from the April 3, 2014 meeting were unanimously approved.

IV. Old Business

1. Discussion of Mechanical and Aerospace Certificate in Unmanned Vehicle Systems –
Dr. Ozdil explained the Committee on Program Creation was tasked by the Assembly to review the following concerns before approving the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Certificate. The concerns included the need for clarification regarding overlapping courses and the title differentiation between IMSE, EE, MAE and CSE submitted for approval July 19, 2014. Dr. Jackson shared an overview of the recently approved unmanned vehicle system certificates approved by the GA. Dr. Armanios, Chair, MAE provided the GA a power point presentation outlining the concerns and responses to the issue with possible overlap in the coursework requirements among the certificate proposals from IME, EE, CSE and MAE and the title of the MAE

certificate.

After discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Jennifer Gray and seconded by Dr. Ron Hissong to approve the certificate, Graduate Certificate in Unmanned Vehicle Systems, proposed by MAE without additional changes, The vote was 9- Approve; 2- no; and 3 abstained. The certificate was approved without reservation.

Note: The GA approval of the IMSE, EE and CSE of the Unmanned Vehicle Systems by electronic vote in July, 2014 and that vote is hereby recorded in these minutes.

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

Dr. Jackson thanked Dr. Ozdil and the Program Review Committee for their extensive work on the unmanned vehicle systems certificates.

Dr. Jackson also shared with the Assembly information obtained from his attendance at the Association of Texas Graduate Schools (ATGS) annual meeting. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) takes about 268 days to completely review and approve PhD proposals. Last year THECB reviewed and approved 18 PhD proposals. In the past 53 days they have received 48 PhD proposals for review. Dr. Jackson has “cheat sheets” for the Program Creation Committee (PCC) to avoid some the common delays. He also reminded the PCC to take into consideration the timeframe required to launch a new program.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Committee on Program Creation – Dr. Taner Ozdil, Chair

1. Proposal on Graduate Certificate for Women’s and Gender Studies
Proposal approved. (14 approved/2 abstention)
2. Proposal on Masters of Science Degree in Economic Data Analytics
Proposal approved. (14 approved/2 abstention)

B. Committee on Graduate Students – Dr. Rod Hissong, Chair

No report.

C. Committee on Program Revision – Dr. Sophia Passy, Chair

No report.

VII. Report of the Graduate Student Senate Representative – Wasiu Lawal

Wasiu Lawal, GSS President, reported the Graduate Student Senate was working on Strategic Plans for the academic year noting several concerns. 1.) Career

preparation, noting coursework doesn't align with job market 2.) Required Course Work; required course work needs to be more available to graduate students. The GA Chair requested the GSS to provide specific information. The concerns may need to be shared with administration by the GSS. Wasiu announced the next program hosted by the GSS and the Office of Graduate Studies is scheduled for October 9, 2014 from 4:30 to 6:30 in the Concho, UC. It will feature a presentation titled, "How to Write a Great Research Paper, and Get it Accepted by a Good Journal" presented by Anthony Newman, Senior Publisher, Life Sciences Department, Elsevier Press.

VIII. New Business – Dr. Steve Mattingly

1. Chair Pro-Tem Election: Dr. Ron Hissong was nominated and unanimously approved to serve as the Graduate Assembly Chair Pro-Tem for a three year term.
2. Paper-based Theses and Dissertations: The Committee on Graduate Students was tasked to review the proposal to accept theses and dissertations which are based on manuscripts prepared for publication even if they are in-press or published. They were also asked to review a proposed revision the Thesis and Dissertation Manual of Style which are intended to simplify formatting requirements and bring them closer to disciplinary writing norms. Dr. Raymond Jackson and Wasiu Lawal will be involved in the committee's discussions.
3. Dr. Mattingly reminded the GA to address and share issues with the assembly for discussion. Dr. Jackson noted this is a legislative body and the GA has a role in the issues on campus to resolve legislative issues and to propose new legislation to benefit graduate education.
4. Dr. Kroll discussed the GA Summer program proposals review process and the need to conduct votes outside of the regularly scheduled meetings of the GA. He raised the concern that e-mail voting does not allow for discussion by the assembly. The possibility that an ad hoc committee should be appointed to consider these concerns and bring policy recommendations to the GA for review was discussed.

IX. Old Business

Nothing to report.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Knight
Executive Assistant
Office of Graduate Studies
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