

MEETING OF THE GRADUATE ASSEMBLY  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON  
FEBRUARY 20, 2003

The Graduate Assembly meeting of February 20, 2003 was called to order by Chair S. Grove at 2:30 p.m. in the Guadalupe Room, University Center.

ATTENDANCE: Members present included M. Barrett, K. Behbehani, D. Gray, S. Grove, J. Grover, S. Hekman, G. McMahon, C. Markum-Shaw, R. Mellgren, M. Yardley

D. Cook, J. Cornehl, M. Dunn, C. Funkhouser, R. Heger, W. Ickes, and J. Mathys were absent.

Ex Officio members present: P. Cohen, M. Castle for Wilding  
J. Jackson was absent

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the November 7, 2002 meeting were approved as published.

REPORT OF THE GRADUATE DEAN: P. Cohen reported on the status of cyber advising.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committee on Graduate Students:

- a. Posthumous Degree Policy: The following statement was produced for approval by the Graduate Assembly:

A graduate degree may be awarded posthumously if work for the degree has been substantially completed. Requests for the posthumous degree are made to the Dean of the Graduate School, who will forward them to the faculty of the student's supervising committee (if applicable), the Graduate Advisor, or Chair of the applicable Committee on Graduate Studies who will determine to seek such a degree. Awarding of a posthumous graduate degree required the consent of the supervising committee (if applicable), the graduate advisor, the applicable Committee on Graduate Studies, Dean of the Graduate School and the Provost.

Evidence of substantially completed work includes:

- (1) For the award of a posthumous doctoral degree, student has been admitted to candidacy and has made tangible progress toward completion of approved research.
- (2) For the award of a posthumous master's degree with a thesis degree plan or non-thesis degree plan, student should have completed or been in the final semester of all course work, including thesis hours.

Cases that do not meet the above criteria may be considered when extraordinary circumstances prevail.

Motion was made for approval and seconded. Motion passed with slight amendment.

- b. Policy to resolve areas of conflict among dissertation and masters committee members

Approval was requested on the following policy:

As a general rule, a single committee member should not be allowed to block a candidate and should support the will of the committee after full debate. If this does not occur, the candidate with the support of the majority of committee members and the Graduate Studies Committee has the right to remove a committee member with due process notification. Herein, the member is informed of the request, asked to step aside, and is entitled to know the rationale and basis. If the committee member chooses, (s)he may ask for a review of the request from the program's Graduate Studies Committee and, in turn, the Dean of the Graduate School.

After a couple of minor revision (which are included in this statement) the policy was approved.

- c. Review/amend policy on GTA and GRA status during academic probation.

The following policy was presented for discussion and approval:

A student with an unconditional admission, who receives one C in a given semester that Takes the GPA below a 3.0, is allowed to retain their assistantship for one more semester in order to bring the GPA to a 3.0. Failure to achieve a GPA in a subsequent semester results in loss of assistantship.

After a brief discussion, this policy statement was tabled and will be placed on the April meeting agenda.

#### Committee on Program Policy

The following certificate title changes were approved:

Old Title

New Title

Nurse Educator Certificate for Faculty  
of ADN or Diploma Programs

Nurse Educator Certificate

Nurse Educator Certificate for Faculty  
of BSN Programs

Advanced Nurse Educator Certificate

The following certificate program was approved:

Emergency Nurse Practitioner

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Grove distributed “Guidelines for Submitting a Nonsubstantive and Substantive Degree Proposal”. She stated that any feedback would be appreciated.

REPORT OF THE GRADUATE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Deana Covell gave a brief overview of the activities of the Graduate Student Council.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The assembly adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

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Secretary