MEETING OF THE GRADUATE ASSEMBLY
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON

DATE: March 31, 2005
TIME: 2:40 p.m.
PLACE: San Saba – University Center
PRESIDING: Dr. James Grover, Chair

ATTENDING: Marjie Barrett    David Jones
Vicky Cereijo    Charla Markhan-Shaw
Nancy Hadaway    Gary McMahan
Rebecca Hegar    Roger Mellgren
Susan Hekman    James Teng
Farhad Kamangar  Raymond Jackson, Ex Officio
Philip Cohen, Ex Officio Gerald Saxon, Ex Officio

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:40 p.m. by Dr. James Grover.

II. Approval of Minutes

The Graduate Assembly (GA) Minutes from the February 17, 2005 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

III. Report of the Graduate Dean

Dr. Cohen made the following announcements:
- The Graduate School is working a partnership with current Graduate Student Senate members to enhance membership and pursue an active role on campus.
- Jim Walther is retiring and returning to the GS as Interim Director at 75%. Once a new Director of Recruiting is hired Jim will reduce to 50%. Currently a national search is underway.
- Currently investigating cost sharing agreements with government agencies and foundations to sponsor jointly graduate students who wish to pursue their doctoral degrees at UTA.
- Please contact Dean Cohen to share any information on foundations or governmental agencies interested in such initiatives.
- Encourage students, faculty and staff to attend and support ACES. This is an undergraduate and graduate celebration of research and creative activities.
- Discussed international recruiting trip to Thailand and Viet Nam.
- Discussed the implementation of GRA PhD Tuition Discounting in Engineering and Science in Fall 05.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Committee on Graduate Students – Dr. Margie Barrett, Chair

1. Proposal on GRE Waiver and Facilitated Admission from pipeline schools

Proposal unanimously approved noting proposal maybe be implemented with feeder schools and a participation agreement from other Texas schools and the seven state recruiting region.
2. Proposal on reduced enrollment for 25% GTA and GRA Appointments

Proposal unanimously approved with amendment to read GRA/GTA holding assistantships that are enrolled for less than fulltime and 25% employment, benefits will be eliminated. Note: GTA/GRA must perform duties related to their program of work. GTA appointments are for teaching positions only.

B. Committee on Program Creation – Dr. Nancy Hadaway, Chair

1. Proposal to create Elementary Science Certification

Proposal to create Elementary Science Certification with 12 hours with concentration in methods and content approved unanimously. Proposed will be forwarded to Coordinating Board.

C. Committee on Program Revision – Dr. Roger Mellgren, Chair

Nothing to report

V. Report of the Chair – Dr. James Grover

Dr. James Grover announced the following

- Election for Graduate Assembly membership- Units have been contacted, noting membership is for two terms, three years each and then must rotate off the GA.
- Topics for next year’s GA include: Implementing Degree Completion Initiatives, How to Build a Program and continued discussion on Graduate Admission Policies.
- There is a discrepancy between the Assembly’s guidelines on preparing academic program proposals, and the procedures required by the HOP. HOP requires that proposals include a letter of support from the appropriate academic Dean, while GA guidelines do not.
- Changing the Assembly’s guidelines is a quicker and easier process than changing the HOP, and requiring Dean’s endorsement would ensure administrative support. The Assembly approved amending the proposal guidelines to include the Dean’s support letter.

VII. Report of Graduate Student Senate Representative

No one present to present report.

VIII. New Business

No GA meeting is scheduled in April noting this meeting constitutes the April meeting. Dr. Grover will notify the GA of any meetings needed during the summer.

VIII. Old Business

Nothing to report

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectively Submitted:
Jennifer Knight
Executive Assistant to the Dean
Office of Graduate Studies