

# Graduate Council Minutes

## October 28, 2005



The Graduate Council met at 2:00 p.m. in the Walker Library Conference Room. Chair Jeff Walck presided.

### I. Call to Order

Members present: Stuart Bernstein, Ken Blake, Michael Hein, Monte Hendrickson, William Ilsley, Jung-Song Lee, Nuria Novella, Zeny Panol, Philip Phillips, Jonathan Sanders, Saleh Sbenaty, Marc Singer, and Jane Williams

Ex-officio members present: Abdul Rao, Vice Provost for Research and Dean College of Graduate Studies

### II. Announcements

#### A. Dr. Jeffrey Walck Chair

- No announcements

#### B. Dr. Abdul Rao

- No announcements

### III. Approval of Minutes – September 23, 2005

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the September 23, 2005 meeting as amended. The motion was seconded and carried.

### IV. Sub-Committee Reports

#### A. Graduate Faculty and Curriculum Review

**Dr. Stuart Bernstein**

- Consent calendar attached – all items have been recommended for approval. Dr. Bernstein requested that two additional items be added to the calendar; YOED 5510 Change in credit hours to variable credit hours and change in course description, and expanded offerings in the pedagogy elective offerings for the Ph.D. in Human Performance. A motion was made to accept the consent calendar as amended above. The motion was seconded and carried.

#### B. Student Affairs and Travel

**Dr. Nuria Novella**

- The committee awarded 28 student travel awards totaling \$13, 235 and four faculty grants, totaling \$1,500, with an ending account balance of approximately \$11,000.
- Prior to this meeting the committee met to begin developing forms and criteria for the award of grants under the new Graduate Research and Scholarship program. The committee will meet with Dr. Knox early next week to finalize plans.

### **C. Policies and Procedures**

#### **Dr. Ken Blake**

- Dr. Blake reported that he had contacted both Forrestine Williams and James Floyd regarding the legality of mandatory orientation for international students. Dr. Blake informed the council that we would have to explain why and that would be difficult to do. After much discussion it was decided the most effective means for reaching these students would be a one-day, intensive Graduate Student Orientation, for all graduate students, with breakout sessions customized to address the different needs of the various students. Dr. Knox and the newly formed Student Government Organization (SGO) will develop a plan for a one-day orientation and present it at the next council meeting.

### **D. Graduate Program Review**

#### **Dr. Michael Hein, Chair**

- No report

### **V. Old Business**

- Dr. Walck reported on the status of the Masters of Professional Studies (RODP) that was taken off the consent calendar of the last Graduate Council meeting in May 2005 pending a clear statement of purpose as well as a definition of the term strategic professional leadership as it pertains to this degree. He has forwarded an email to Robbie Melton, (RODP) regarding the status but has not yet received a reply. He will continue to follow-up and inform the council of his findings.

### **VI. New Business**

- Dr. Rao enlisted the advice of the Graduate Council regarding graduate students who leave the university for a period of time to mentor with another professor in a different location. Should we review the qualifications of the mentor and have them apply for adjunct graduate faculty status at MTSU? What is the process for endorsing the mentor prior to their taking on the student? It was suggested that if the mentor holds graduate faculty status at their institution they would automatically receive adjunct status here. After much discussion it was decided that Dr. Rao would pose the question to the Council of Graduate Schools and share his discussion at the next Graduate Council meeting
- Some graduate faculty members have complained about the one hour release time; Dr. Rao has recommended to the Provost that the teaching load on those actively involved in the doctoral programs be reduced. He further noted that there was inequity in the university and asked, "How best to create a proposal for the entire graduate faculty?" Those members actively involved in research should receive more release time than those who are not. Entitlement is not acceptable and the current rules for obtaining graduate faculty status are not stringent enough. Should graduate faculty get three hours release time for teaching graduate level courses? Dean Rao asked that the members think about it and revisit at the next meeting.

- Dr. Ann Sloan, Associate Dean Liberal Arts and Special Assistant to the Provost for International Education addressed the group regarding the internationalization of MTSU. Policies and infrastructure are being developed to further this initiative. One of the goals is to increase the Study Abroad Program by 500%; MTSU has seen tremendous progress in the last two years. In the state of Tennessee, MTSU is second in the state in the number of students we send abroad. Dr. Sloan is asking for support from the Graduate Council, in the form of a resolution, for the President and Provost to establish an ad hoc committee to develop systems and infrastructure to support exchange, interest, and broaden perspectives of international education. The motion was made to propose the following resolution:

*"Whereas the MTSU Academic Master Plan focuses on several tools graduates will need in the twenty-first century, including the ability to communicate effectively, to understand past and present cultures, and participate effectively in the international workplace and the world community, and whereas it is the responsibility of the faculty and academic departments to provide an environment in which students at the undergraduate and graduate level will acquire these tools, the Graduate Council recommends that an ad hoc committee be established to examine the faculty development programs and the support infrastructure needed to pursue research, faculty exchange, and expansion of faculty familiarity with other cultures in order to implement this element of the Academic Master Plan."*

The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

- Dr. Walck brought an issue to the council that needs to be resolved as expeditiously as possible. A Ph.D. student in Economics has taken the qualifying exam twice and has failed both times. Although he has passed everything else the program has recommended that he takes a Master's degree and leaves the university. The student is appealing his/her dismissal due to health issues. After discussing the issue among the council it was agreed that both the department and the student should be allowed to state their sides and that this would best be done by a special ad hoc committee to meet with both parties. An Ad Hoc Committee was created, consisting of William Ilsley, Jane Williams, Philip Phillips, Michael Hein, and Zeny Panol. Dr. Rao will forward the pertinent documents to the committee and a meeting with both parties will be held as soon as possible.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted: Lynn Parker  
Recording Secretary

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# Graduate Council – Consent Calendar

## October 28, 2005

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### Graduate Faculty Membership

#### **Associate Membership – Initial Appointment – Level 1**

Clare Bratten / Electronic Media  
Charlene True / Educational Leadership  
Mary Nichols / Electronic Media  
Kimberly O'Kelley / Human Sciences  
Andrew Owusu / Health & Human Performance  
Alicia Renfroe / English  
Donald Roy / Management & Marketing  
Kathy Van Fleet / Elementary & Special Education  
Dwayne McSwain / Accounting  
Thomas Berg / Electronic Media Communication

#### **Associate Membership – Re-Appointment – Level 2**

Vincent Smith / BMOM  
Raholand White / BMOM

#### **Full – Initial Appointment**

Vincent Cobb / Biology  
Abdul Qayyum Khaliq / Mathematical Sciences  
Donald Lester / Management & Marketing  
Rong Luo / Mathematical Sciences  
Suk Jai Seo / Computer Science  
Nicole Turrill Welch / Biology

#### **Full – Re-Appointment**

Sonja Hedgepeth / Foreign Languages  
Marc Singer / Management & Marketing  
William Warren / Management & Marketing  
John DuBois / Biology  
Alexis Miller / Criminal Justice  
Michael Neth / English  
Robert Hunt / History  
Amy Jetton / Biology  
Lance Selva / Criminal Justice  
James Rust / Psychology  
Brian Miller / Biology  
Jimmie Cain / English  
Roy Thomas / Management & Marketing  
Martha Balachandran / BMOM  
Stephen Schmidt / Psychology  
Nancy Goldberg / Foreign Languages  
Brenda Rambo-Igney / Psychology  
Stephen D. Lewis / BMOM  
Ellen Donovan / English  
Al Cripps / Computer /Science

## **Doctoral – Re-Appointment**

Will Brantley / English

Kevin Donovan / English

Michael Sanger / Chemistry

## **Curriculum Changes**

### **Educational Leadership**

#### **Course Number / Title Change:**

**LIBS 5150** Change title from Books & Media for Children to Books, Media, and Literacy for Children, effective spring 2006

**LIBS 5160** Change title from Books and Media for Young Children to Books, Media, and Literacy for Young People, effective spring 2006

#### **Changes in Credit Hours**

**YOED 5510** Change in credit hours to variable 3-9 credit hours; change in course description, effective spring 2006

### **Health & Human Performance**

#### **Inactivation of Course:**

**PHED 5950 Adaptive Physical Education**, 3 credit hours, effective spring 2006

#### **Course Number / Title Change:**

**HPER 6610 Research Methods in HPERs** – change to HHP 6610 Research Methods in Health and Human Performance, effective spring 2006

**Change current course numbers (see attached)** from HPER to HHP, effective spring 2006

#### **Non-Substantive Revisions in Curriculum of Existing Major, Minor, Emphasis:**

**Ph.D. in Human Performance** Increase the pedagogy elective offerings for the Ph.D. in Human Performance Program from four courses to nine, effective summer 2005

### **History**

#### **Proposed New Course:**

**HIST 6994/7994 Advanced Projects in Public History**, 3 credit hours, effective spring 2006

**HIST6993/6994 Current Issues in Public History Practice**, 3 credit hours, effective spring 2006