

# GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

## February 15, 2013

The Graduate Council met at 1:30 p.m. in the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room of the Sam Ingram Building. Chair Kevin Donovan presided.

### **I. Call to Order**

#### **Members present:**

Joseph Akins, Vaughn Barry, Helen Binkley, Larry Burriss, Michaele Chappell, Vince Cobb, Amy Harris, Robin Lee, Theresa McBreen, Jason Reineke, Jim Rust, and Jim Williams

#### **Ex-Officio/Guests present:**

Peter Cunningham, Associate Dean, College of Graduate Studies

### **II. Announcements**

#### **A. Peter Cunningham, Associate Dean, College of Graduate Studies**

The College of Graduate Studies will be working with Noel-Levitz, a higher education consulting firm, in order to help with achieving our goals for enrollment management and retention. A consultant from Noel-Levitz will be on campus March 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Cunningham distributed a handout of the Spring 2013 Enrollment Comparisons. This report is generated by the MTSU Office of Enrollment Technical Services.

We had our first GMAT Workshop on February 1<sup>st</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup>. This past weekend, the GRE Workshop was full at a capacity of 25 registrants with another 14 having to be placed on a waiting list. Since the demand for this workshop is so great, the College of Graduate Studies will host another GRE Workshop this semester. There will be a Thesis and Dissertation Workshop on Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm in Ingram 101.

Dr. Cunningham reported that the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) will be a collaborative degree program with planned implementation in the fall semester of 2015.

Two years ago, the Graduate Council approved the establishment of an Accelerated Bachelor's / Master's (ABM) program. The program allows undergraduate students an opportunity to complete the requirements for both the bachelor's and master's degrees in a compressed time frame. The College of Graduate Studies is in the process of getting the program up and running.

### **III. Approval of minutes from last meeting—January 18, 2013**

*A motion was made to accept the minutes of the January 18, 2013. The motion was seconded and passed.*

### **IV. Sub-Committee Reports**

#### **A. Graduate Faculty and Curriculum Review Dr. Amy Harris, Chair**

- Consent Calendar attached
- *A motion was made to accept the consent calendar. The motion was seconded and passed.*

#### **B. Student Affairs and Travel Dr. Helen Binkley, Chair**

- There was no report.

#### **C. Policies and Procedures Dr. Vince Cobb, Chair**

- Dr. Cobb reported that this committee has gathered feedback on possible changes to our current graduate faculty membership criteria.

#### **D. Graduate Program Review Dr. Larry Burriss, Chair**

- Dr. Burriss reported that the Provost's Office is currently making arrangements for the Economics M.A. and Ph.D. program reviews.

### **V. Old Business**

- Graduate Scholarships:

Graduate Studies is currently revising the scholarship submission deadlines for the sake of consistency since all scholarships must be awarded by May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The Student Affairs and Travel Committee have been designated to review the scholarship applications.

- Graduate Student and Faculty Awards:

Last May, the Graduate Council approved the establishment of outstanding thesis/project awards in three categories: 1) arts, education, humanities, and social sciences; 2) math, science, engineering, and

technology; and 3) an outstanding dissertation award. An outstanding graduate faculty mentor award was also created to recognize excellence in faculty supervision of graduate studies. During today's meeting, the Council decided which committees would be responsible for selecting the award recipients. After a short discussion, the Student Affairs and Travel Committee was designated to handle the graduate student awards, and the Faculty and Curriculum Review Committee was designated to handle the graduate faculty award. The student awards will be given at the end of the Spring 2013 semester, and the faculty award will be given at the Fall Faculty meeting on the eve of the Fall 2013 semester.

## **VI. New Business**

- Graduate Student and Faculty Travel Funds:

The Council engaged in a discussion about how best to use graduate student and faculty travel funds at a time when resources are so limited. Some suggestions included: dividing the budgeted amount by semesters, reducing the dollar amount granted to students in order to allow more students to use the funds, reducing the amount granted to faculty, and requesting an increase in the budgeted amount as enrollment increases. *A motion was made to charge the Student Affairs and Travel Committee with drafting a recommendation to present to the Council at the March meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.*

- Concern from Professional Counseling Department:

Dr. Robin Lee voiced concerns from her department in regards to a recent House Bill passed in Michigan in honor of a graduate student in the counseling program at Eastern Michigan University. In that particular case, the student refused to provide counseling services based upon her own religious beliefs. If a student refuses to counsel a client based upon their religious beliefs, this bill would forbid public colleges and universities from disciplining or discriminating against students in counseling, social work or psychology programs. There are concerns about such precedents being set for the public institutions of higher learning across the nation and how that might affect our counseling program at MTSU.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

**Graduate Council – Consent Calendar  
February 15, 2013**

**Graduate Faculty Membership**

**Adjunct**

Arthur Ford / Psychology  
Spencer Lambright / Music  
Victor Pestrak / Psychology  
Elroy Sullivan / Psychology  
Ray Wiley/Health & Human Performance

**Associate**

Cheryl Hitchcock / Elementary & Special Education  
Jerden Johnson / Psychology  
Kelly Kolar / History

**Full Reappointment**

Robert Eaker / Educational Leadership  
Mary Ellen Fromuth / Psychology  
Monica Wallace / Psychology

**Doctoral Initial**

Mohamed Salem / Biology

## Curriculum Changes

### *Liberal Arts*

#### **Letter of Intent**

Master's of Arts in Liberal Arts, effective Fall 2014

### *Health and Human Performance*

#### **Course Title Change**

EXSC 6890 Change title from Seminar in Exercise Science and Health Promotion to Seminar in Exercise Science, 3 credit hours, effective Spring 2013

Course can now be taken multiple times – up to a total of 6 credit hours, effective Spring 2013

### *Mathematical Sciences*

#### **Course Title Change**

ACSI 5220 Change title from Mathematics of Pricing Theory to Mathematics of Corporate Finance,  
3 credit hours, effective Summer 2013

#### **Proposed New Course**

ACSI 6600 Problems in Actuarial Science, 1-6 credit hours, effective Summer 2013

### *Aerospace*

#### **Inactivation of Courses**

All changes to be effective Spring 2013

Inactivate:

- AERO 5100 Airline Management
- AERO 5110 Airport Management
- AERO 5130 Aerospace Physiology
- AERO 5150 Fixed Base Operations Management
- AERO 5160 Aviation Law
- AERO 5170 Airport Planning and Design
- AERO 5230 Advanced Air Navigation
- AERO 5240 Aircraft Systems Management
- AERO 5310 Aerospace Vehicle Systems
- AERO 5530 Air Traffic Control
- AERO 5580 Flight Instructor IV