

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes
November 11, 2022

Guests and substitutes in attendance: Sandy Bennett, Gary Carini, Steve McClain, Jim Nogalski, Cheolho Sim.

Graduate School deans and staff in attendance: Larry Lyon, Becca Cassady, Sara Dolan, Sheila Dooley, Anna Henderson, Tosha Hendrickson, Bill Hockaday Eric Hooley, Dana Matthews, Chris Rios, Alana Schaeper, Laura Sepanski, David Winkler.

Graduate School Dean, Larry Lyon, greeted the group. The invocation was led by Dr. Bill Hockaday.

Minutes Review and Approval

The minutes from April 29, 2022 were presented for review and approved without changes.

Sound not working until 33:46 for virtual attendees. Sound Begins with David Winkler and Graduate Student Association presentation.

Graduate Student Association

David Winkler

- Graduate planner for graduate students
- Has representatives from almost all departments
- Asks departments for support

Dean Lyon introduces Dr. Bill Hockaday

Proposal: BS/MS Global Health Biology

Dr. Bill Hockaday/Dr. Cheolho Sim

Proposal has been a work in progress for 5 years. Uses a two-level track.

Q: When was the proposal envisioned?

A: Envisioned 10 years ago and work in progress for 5 years.

Many questions from in-person attendees were unable to be heard.

Text comments in Zoom chat:

Could you clarify the difference between Global Health and Public Health further in proposal? Robbins has a Department of Public Health and MPH.

If you are taking suggestions to improve proposal and make a case for market demand: competitive analysis: How many other global health programs are out there? Will it be hard to establish credibility as a new program? If graduate students pay out-of-pocket, what are the job prospects (employment in field of study), starting salary avg., that may affect graduate student return on investment in degree and payback time?

Voting Results: Passed 42-2

Zoom chat about background noise as a result from prior sound difficulties.

Dr. Larry Lyon

Program Profiles

Dean Lyon asked that departments with problems about the program profiles contact him directly after the meeting.

- There is no data in Baylor Decile because it is unknown whether it is better to have more female/male students.
- Helps determine whether a program would be recommended to a student

Q. How long is the exit survey?

A. It is much longer than what is shown on the program profile. There are 13 pages of questions.

Annual Report: "Being R1"

- Good progress in PhD graduates and rankings but are lacking in Science and Engineering grant funding.
- Need to act like a R1 university. Recruit faculty, promote faculty, recruit graduate students, etc.

Dr. Chris Rios

Graduate Student Enrollment

- Larger and increasingly diverse student body
- Evolving composition of students
- Unprecedented and promising PhD completion rates

Inaudible question asked

Text comments in Zoom Chat:

In the future, it would be good to replace "female" with women

Dr. Sara Dolan

Process for appointing a new GPD

- Graduate school will contact programs
- Department nomination must be submitted
- Graduate school and Academic Dean will affirm, reject, or ask for more information.

TOR Certification

- TOR's must meet SACS requirement and complete onboarding with the graduate school

Q. Can departments have their own requirements for TORs?

A. departments can have their own process of selection, but it needs to be reviewed by the deans.

Q. What are the benefits/incentives of being a graduate TOR?

A. They have access to faculty parking

Q. What else can we offer the graduate TORs as an incentive?

A. We are working closely with the GSA to find more incentives for the TORs.

Dr. Becca Cassady/Dr. Sara Dolan

Graduate Writing Center

- Graduate writing center is also for faculty
- Streamlining and clarifying dissertation and thesis submission process.
- Departmental handbook updates.

Q. Can we digitize the forms?

A. Some forms have been uploaded digitally, but others are still a work in progress.

Q. Can departments help digitize forms?

A. Main forms are not department specific, but any help is welcome.

Q. Can master students also utilize writing support even if it is labeled PhD?

A. Yes, all students are welcome. There is not a physical center, so everything is online.

Dr. Rios explains the changes within the graduate school. Sandra Harman retired and Becca Cassady is now the person to contact.

Dr. Chris Rios

Catalog Changes and Student Record Reminders

- Clarifying process and removing obstacles (degree requirement changes need to be reviewed and are submitted via online forms)
- FTE (Full-Time Equivalency) courses
- GA Payroll Guidelines

Meeting ended and Dean Lyon dismissed the group.