

# GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

## May 20, 2011

The Graduate Council met at 1:00 p.m. in the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room of the Sam Ingram Building. Chair Clare Bratten presided.

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

#### **Members present:**

Kathy Burriss, Michael Chappell, Cosette Collier, Kevin Donovan, Michael Hein, David Penn, Jason Reineke, Craig Rice, Greg Schmidt, and Vince Smith

#### **Ex-Officio members present:**

Michael Allen, Dean, College of Graduate Studies

### **II. Announcements**

#### **A. Dr. Clare Bratten, Chair**

Dr. Bratten opened the meeting.

#### **B. Dr. Michael Allen, Dean, College of Graduate Studies**

Dr. Allen confirmed that 20 Ph.D. candidates had indeed graduated this year so that the Carnegie classification of MTSU was upheld. He thanked David Penn for helping to shepherd some dissertations through completion.

Dr. Allen noted that Associate Dean Cunningham was absent from today's Council to attend his son's wedding.

Dr. Allen noted that the Professional Science Masters degree had recently received the TBR Award for Best Graduate Program.

### **III. Approval of minutes from last meeting—April 29, 2011**

*A motion was made to accept the minutes of the April 29, 2011. The motion was seconded and passed.*

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

#### **A. Graduate Faculty and Curriculum Review Dr. John DiVincenzo, Chair**

- The Consent Calendar was presented by Dr. Craig Rice.

- *A motion was made to accept the consent calendar. The motion was seconded and passed.*
- Dean Allen asked about the recent approval of the Health Care Communication Graduate Certificate. He noted that the provision of state funds for undergraduates comes as each undergraduate completes a certain number of hours as part of a standard formula for funding and that a formula for funding graduate students also applied but only for **completion** of Master's and Doctoral degrees. However, he noted that Certificates brought in no revenue beyond their tuition dollars. Dr. Bratten stated that the Health Care Communication Certificate in the College of Mass Communications was merely the first step in developing a Master's Degree program.

**B. Student Affairs and Travel**  
**Dr. Vicky MacLean, Chair**

- There was no report from the Student Affairs and Travel Committee. Dr. Bratten commended the good work of the committee in researching stipends for GA positions across peer institutions and the study of potential solutions for health plans for graduate students and GAs. Dr. Allen announced that the President gave a positive response during budget hearings to the proposal to raise graduate student stipends.

**C. Policies and Procedures**  
**Dr. Vince Smith, Chair**

- No report

**D. Graduate Program Review**  
**Dr. Kevin Donovan, Chair**

- Dr. Donovan summarized the program reviews for the M.A. in History, M.A. in Sociology, and the Master's in Criminal Justice. He noted the strengths, weaknesses and recommendations of the program reviewers and the fact that many of the areas for recommendation were in areas that were not easily controlled by the program in question such as teaching loads, physical facilities and space. Other recommendations for the need for additional scholarship and membership in professional organizations by faculty were noted for the Criminal Justice program. Dean Allen suggested that the external reviewer of the Criminal Justice program did not adequately distinguish between the quality of the faculty at TSU and MTSU, to the detriment of the latter.

**V. Old Business**

- Dr. Bratten suggested that an ‘executive summary’ of decisions made by the Graduate Council over the course of the semester or year be provided to all graduate faculty on measures that directly impact the functioning of graduate programs such as the Speak Test or the use of Turnitin Plagiarism Detection Software. While Dr. Chappelle noted that such decisions were in the Minutes, most agreed that a brief summary of decisions that might result in program change or functioning of a program would be a good measure.

## **VI. New Business**

- Dr. Allen discussed whether the graduate school and university as a whole would need to develop a set of standards for ‘tolerance’ levels for plagiarism given the ubiquity of easy digital ‘copying’ by new generations of students and particularly the cultural/educational practices by some international students. Faculty suggested that a part of graduate student orientation would be to demonstrate how the Turnitin program works (and its degree of accuracy in finding exact wording) and setting a limit of ‘one’ infraction – with the second infraction, the student would be subject to academic misconduct measures. Dr. Allen stated that the graduate school would look at developing both a training module, either online or as a part of graduate student orientation.
- Dr. Bratten noted that Dr. Craig Rice would be assuming the position of Chair of the Graduate Council 2011-2012. Dr. Rice encouraged the Council members to consider volunteering for the position of Vice-Chair. The Council thanked the members who were rotating off the committee for their service and Dr. Bratten for her service as Chair for the past year.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

# Graduate Council – Consent Calendar May 20, 2011

## Graduate Faculty Membership

### Adjunct

Charla K. Kelley / Elementary and Special Education  
Ramkumar Menon / Biology

### Associate

Karen Petersen / Political Science  
George Vernardakis / Political Science

## Curriculum Changes

### *Electronic Media Communication*

#### Other

Create Graduate Certificate in Health Care Communication, effective Fall 2011

### *Literacy Studies*

#### Proposed New Course

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LITS 7100 Historical Issues, Trends and Methodologies of Literacy, effective Fall 2011

### *Mathematical Sciences*

#### Changes in Credit Hours

In order to update the course inventory in Banner --- For each of the following courses, change from 3 credit hours to variable credit of 1 to 9 hours, effective Summer 2011:

MATH 6601 Advanced Calculus  
MATH 6602 Number Theory  
MATH 6603 Mathematics of Finance  
MATH 6604 Mathematics of Life Contingencies  
MATH 6605 Numerical Analysis  
MATH 6606 Topology  
MATH 6607 Abstract Algebra  
MATH 6608 Combinatorics and Graph Theory

## *Math and Science Education*

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

Cross-List MSE 7800/7810 with the existing CHEM 7800/7810  
Cross-List MATH 7800/7810 with the existing CHEM 7800/7810  
Cross-List STAT 7800/7810 with the existing CHEM 7800/7810  
Cross-List BIOL 7800/7810 with the existing CHEM 7800/7810

Change the course title for MSE 7800/7810 to Teaching Internship instead of Chemistry Internship

Change the course title for MATH 7800/7810 to Teaching instead of Chemistry Internship

Change the course title for STAT 7800/7810 to Teaching Internship instead of Chemistry Internship

Change the course title for BIOL 7800/7810 to Teaching Internship instead of Chemistry Internship

All effective dates of Fall 2011.

### **Proposed New Course**

MSE 7900 Teaching and Learning Mathematics and Science, 3 credit hours, effective Fall 2011

## *Psychology*

### **Proposed New Course**

PSY 6880 Practicum: Consultation/Collaboration in School Psychology, 3 credit hours, effective Fall 2011

## *Biology*

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### **Inactivation of Course**

BIOL 5010 Embryology  
BIOL 5020 Comparative Anatomy of the Vertebrates  
BIOL 5100 History and Philosophy of Biology  
BIOL 6330 Principles of Physiology  
BIOL 6331 Principles of Physiology Lab  
BIOL 6710 Biostatistical Analysis II

All effective dates of Fall 2011.

## *Chemistry*

### **Proposed New Course(s)**

PSCI 6800/7800 Intermediate Physical Science, 3 credit hours, effective Summer 2011

### **Proposed New Course(s)**

CHEM 6780 Polymer and Materials Chemistry Laboratory, 2 credit hours, effective Fall 2011

## *Engineering Technology*

### **Proposed New Course(s)**

ET 6740 Engineering Technology Internship, 3 credit hours, effective Fall 2011

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## *Educational Leadership*

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

Change the course title of SPSE 7020 from Administration of School Personnel to Classroom Management Methods and Models, 3 credit hours, effective Summer 2011

### **Non-Substantive Revisions in Curriculum of Existing Major, Minor, Emphasis and Change in Credit Hours**

Change credit hours from 12 to 9 for LIBS 6511, Directed Student Teaching (Library Science), effective Summer 2011

Change from 18 credits of Library Science courses to 24 credits (includes all LIBS coursework that is required for the M.Ed. ADSU/Library Science concentration), effective Summer 2011

Add LIBS 6110 (School Library Administration) and LIBS 6120 (Cataloging and Classification) as prerequisites to LIBS 6180 Library Science Practicum Pre K-6, effective Summer 2011

Change Activity Code of LIBS 6180 from LEC (Lecture) to IND (Independent Study), effective Summer 2011

## *Elementary and Special Education*

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

Change course title of ECE 5360, Daycare Perspectives, to Administering Early Childhood Programs, 3 credit hours, effective Fall 2011