

## GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

November 20, 2015

The Graduate Council met at 2:00 p.m. in Ingram 101. Chair Jennifer Vannatta-Hall presided.

### I. Call to Order

#### **Members present:**

Jennifer Vannatta-Hall, Vishwas Bedekar, William Crabtree, Virginia Dansby, Bichaka Fayissa, Amy Harris, Robert Kalwinsky, Steve Livingston, Pamela Morris, Lynn Nelson, Dwight Patterson, Donald Snead, Cliff Welborn, Michelle Fields, and Kolby McGee Wright.

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

Scott Handy, Interim Associate Dean, College of Graduate Studies  
Jackie Eller, Interim Dean, College of Graduate Studies and Vice Provost for Research  
Judith Van Hein for Monica Wallace

### II. Announcements

#### **a. Dr. Jennifer Vannatta-Hall, Chair**

Dr. Vannatta-Hall opened the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

### III. Approval of Minutes from last meeting – October 23, 2015

The minutes were distributed to the Graduate Council for review. A motion was made to accept the minutes of the October 23rd, 2015 meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

### IV. Sub-Committee Reports

#### **a. Graduate Faculty and Curriculum Review**

##### **Dr. Cliff Welborn, Chair**

- The November Consent Calendar is attached.
- The Consent Calendar comes in the form of a motion. It was seconded and passed.

#### **b. Student Affairs and Travel**

##### **Dr. Kathleen Darby, Chair**

##### **Kolby McGree Wright**

- Ms. Wright discussed the results of the GSA Student Survey. She stated that the results showed that scheduling of Tuesdays at Ingram made it difficult for students with careers to attend the events. Additionally she said that there was some concern by students about the quality of education in the graduate program vs. that of their undergraduate institutions and that the lack of a competitive stipends was a real issue. These issues will be investigated further and reported on at the next council meeting.

c. **Policies and Procedures**  
**Dr. Jeremy Winters, Chair**

d. **Graduate Program Review**  
**Dr. Bichaka Fayissa, Chair**

- Dr. Fayissa listed the departments that would be up for review in the Spring of 2016. They will include MS-Professional Science, all concentrations, MS-Health and Human Performance, all concentrations, and MS-Mathematics, all concentrations. Mass Communications review has been delayed.

V. **Old Business**

a. **Dr. Scott Handy, Interim Associate Dean, College of Graduate Studies**

Dr. Handy addressed the issue of delineating between graduate faculty who could chair dissertation committees and those who could not. After reviewing the SACS materials on the subject, he saw no clear policy that requires this delineation. Since a policy had been in place at the University previously, it was decided to put it to a sub-committee for review. Dr. Handy will be assigning it to either the Policies and Procedures sub-committee or the Faculty and Curriculum sub-committee depending on the language used in the original policy.

Dr. Handy discussed the proposed increase in English proficiency standards for graduate admission. The proposal is currently at the Provost's office.

VI. **New Business**

a. **Dr. Jackie Eller, Interim Dean, College of Graduate Studies**

Dr. Eller discussed implementing a Regional Scholar type program for graduate students. This would allow students residing within a 250 mile radius of MTSU to attend at the in-state tuition rate + \$196 per credit hour even if they fall out of state. She presented research into the cost of this stating that 10 students this semester were eligible for the program. Calculations showed that the university would have to take in 9 more students taking 9+ hours each to cover the cost of the program for these 10 students. Dr. Eller discussed the possibility of placing limitations on the program such as requiring the students in the program to take at least 9 hours a semester. The council discussed whether or not to initially propose this with the limitations or to just propose it for any student. It was decided to include all students in the initial proposal. A discussion was started about the number of metropolitan areas within the 250 mile radius and many were noted. It was also discussed that this program is being proposed due to changing Tennessee residency requirements that will make it much more difficult to get in-state residency for students initially out of state.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

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## Graduate Council – Consent Calendar November 20, 2015

### Graduate Faculty Membership

#### **Full**

Daniel Erenso / Physics and Astronomy / PhD  
Deborah Wagnon / Recording Industry / JD

#### **Adjunct**

Juan Canedo / Sociology and Anthropology / DHSc  
Nina Gregg / ALSI / PhD  
Kyle Woosnam / Health and Human Performance / PhD

### Graduate Curriculum Changes

#### *Literacy Studies*

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

Changes to be effective Summer 2016

LITS 7120      Professional Seminar in Graduate Studies (elective)  
LITS 7150      Multilingualism and Literacy (elective)

#### *Women and Gender Studies*

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

Changes to be effective Spring 2016

Add the following list of electives to the list of elective courses that can fulfill the requirements for the certificate program:

CDFS 5140, HIST 5770, HIST 5780, HIST 5775, HIST 5810, MUHL 5810, PSY 5620, SOC 5140, SOC 5150, SOC 5361, BCED 6680, ENGL 6/7450, ENGL 6/7455, ENGL 6/7460, ENGL 6/7500, HIST 6/7104, HIST 6/7204, PSY 6730, SOC 6540, SOC 6545, SOC 6650, WGST 6000, WGST 6010, WGST 6020, WGST 6021