

Graduate Council Minutes

March 3, 2006

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, Monte Hendrickson, Michael Hein, William Ilsley, Nuria Novella, Zeny Panol, Saleh Sbenaty, Marc Singer, and Jane Williams

Ex-officio members present: Pamela Knox, Associate Dean College of Graduate Studies

II. Announcements

A. **Dr. Jeffrey Walck Chair** - No Announcements

B. **Dr. Pamela Knox**

- Dr. Knox reported that she requested \$20,000.00 from Dr. Gebert for additional student and faculty travel funds. Dr. Gebert has already transferred \$4,700.00 to cover the requests we currently have. Dr. Gebert further instructed Dr. Knox to check with Becky Cole in a few weeks to see if an additional \$15,000.00 has been transferred. Dr. Gebert stressed that these additional funds come with the caveat that the Graduate Council establish some Policies and Procedures for distributing funds to allow for equal disbursement of funds for summer, fall, and spring travel.
- Dr. Knox also noted that both faculty and students who plan to travel internationally should check the state travel advisory list (travel.state.gov) prior to planning their trip.
- After discussion, a motion was made to refer the above mentioned policy to the Policy and Procedures Sub-Committee for development. They will report back to the council at the next meeting in March. The motion was seconded and passed.

III. Approval of Minutes – February 3, 2006

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the February 3, 2006 meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

IV. Sub-Committee Reports

A. **Graduate Faculty and Curriculum Review**
Dr. Stuart Bernstein

- Consent calendar attached – A motion was made to accept the consent calendar as attached. The motion was seconded and carried.

B. **Student Affairs and Travel**
Nuria Novella

- With the additional funds Dr. Knox was able to procure, seven additional grants were awarded, six student and one faculty, totaling \$2,840.00. As Dr. Knox noted, she is working on procuring additional funds as well.

C. **Policies and Procedures**
Dr. Ken Blake

- No report

D. Graduate Program Review
Dr. Michael Hein, Chair

- No report

V. Old Business

- New requirements for Graduate Faculty Membership – Dr. Walck reported that the sub-committee has not met yet and will make their report at the next council meeting. He further stated that he had spoken with Dr. Carlton and Dr. Gebert has expressed how supportive she will be to any changes to these new requirements. She has also expressed an interest in attending the next Graduate Council meeting to discuss the issue. Dr. Carlton expressed his interest in attending the sub-committee meeting that will take place prior to the Graduate Council meeting.

VI. New Business

- On March 31, 2006 from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building (JUB), Katherine May will be here to do a presentation on the Proquest Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Submission. Dr. Knox will be sending invitations to all Deans, Department Heads, Program Coordinators, and any others you think may be interested. She would very much like for the members of the Graduate Council to attend, if your schedule permits, so that you can provide feedback and discuss at the next council meeting.
- Dr. Hein gave a brief summary of the problems the council had last year with the Masters of Professional Studies proposal. Dr. Knox interjected that it is her understanding that the proposal has been approved and is going forth regardless of whether the council approves or disapproves, that RODP has its own Graduate Committee that is approving all courses. While the council felt like the revisions made to the Master's of Professional Studies Program addressed their concerns, they were disturbed that the Graduate Council would have no say so in the courses or programs that were taught by MTSU faculty. The council feels strongly that all programs and courses must still come through the Graduate Council for approval. Dr. Walck will invite Jack Thomas, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs to the next Graduate Council meeting to discuss this issue.
- Dr. Knox stated that she had been getting some inquiries about a \$25,000.00 Graduate Student Research Fund. In speaking with Dr. Carlton, it is his understanding that the funds are tied into the Graduate Student Association (GSA) getting money from graduate student funds which they currently have not been able to do. Monte Hendrickson, who is the Vice-President of the GSA, said that they have spoken with the President of the Student Government Association and been turned down; they are planning to petition for \$50,000.00 (\$20 student fee X 2,500 graduate students). Dr. Knox asked if they had meet with Robert Glenn, Vice President Student Affairs, and Ms. Hendrickson noted that they have not. Dr. Hein stated that he felt it would be unfair to send students in to speak with Dr. Glenn regarding the matter. After some discussion, it was decided to invite Dr. Glenn to the next Graduate Council meeting to discuss the issue of GSA dollars.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted: Lynn Parker
Recording Secretary

/lp

Graduate Council – Consent Calendar
March 3, 2006

Graduate Faculty Membership

Associate Membership – Initial Appointment

Shannon Hodge / Sociology & Anthropology

Full – Re-Appointment

Robert Rogers / Criminal Justice

Carol Detmer / Human Sciences