

# GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

April 29, 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, Gore Ervin, Michael Hein, Donald Lester, Vicky MacLean, Bren Martin, David Penn, Jason Reineke, Greg Schmidt, and Craig Rice

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

Michael Allen, Dean, College of Graduate Studies  
Peter Cunningham, Associate 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 informed the Council that he had recently presented the CGS budget update to President McPhee at the annual Budget Hearings. The College of Graduate Studies will have 953 graduates this year. We currently have 3,045 full and part-time students.

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

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

Dr. Cunningham reported that there will be 20 Ph.D. students to graduate this academic year.

Dr. Cunningham informed the Council that there is a possibility that TSU may withdraw from the MTSU-TSU joint Masters of Criminal Justice degree.

### **III. Approval of minutes from last meeting—March 25, 2011**

*A motion was made to accept the minutes of the March 25, 2011. The motion was seconded and passed.*

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

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

**Dr. John DiVincenzo, Chair**

- Consent calendar attached
- *A motion was made to accept the consent calendar. The motion was seconded and passed.*
- Associate Dean Cunningham presented a proposal to create a Graduate Certificate in U.S. Culture and Education. This certificate program will provide an opportunity for short-term (one semester) study abroad at MTSU. It will also provide a way for international students seeking to participate in 3+2 academic programs to enroll at MTSU. *The proposal was approved by the Council.* The certificate's effective date is the fall of 2011.

#### **B. Student Affairs and Travel**

**Dr. Vicky MacLean, Chair**

- Dr. MacLean noted that the committee would need more time to research provisions for health insurance plans for graduate assistants.
- Dr. MacLean reported that from her interactions with the Graduate Student Association (GSA), the graduate students are interested in the use of their student activity fees. The GSA would like for their student activity fees to be placed in a separate pool from the Student Government Association (SGA). The graduate students feel the SGA is more geared toward undergraduate programming.

#### **C. Policies and Procedures**

**Dr. Vince Smith, Chair**

- No report

#### **D. Graduate Program Review**

**Dr. Kevin Donovan, Chair**

- No report

## **V. Old Business**

- Dr. Bratten congratulated the Student Affairs and Travel Committee for a job well done on the work assessing GTA salaries and benefits and putting together proposals to be forwarded to the administration. Dr. Bratten also congratulated the ad hoc committee chaired by Dr. Kevin Donovan. The committee was instrumental in helping to organize the Graduate Student Association.

## **VI. New Business**

- Dr. Cunningham reported that a doctoral student has made a request to have the library policy changed to reflect longer check-out periods for library materials. Dr. Bratten asked the Student Affairs and Travel committee to research the MTSU Library Policy and policies of our peer institutions on length of check-out periods.
- Dr. Bratten asked for three volunteers for the next two Graduate Academic Suspension Appeals Committee meetings. The first meeting is on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Drs. Kevin Donovan, Greg Schmidt, and David Penn volunteered for the first meeting. The second meeting is on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Drs. Craig Rice, Bren Martin, and Clare Bratten volunteered for the second meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

# Graduate Council – Consent Calendar April 29, 2011

## Graduate Faculty Membership

### **Adjunct**

Mark J. Abolins / Geosciences

### **Associate**

Debrah C. Sickler-Voigt / Art

## Curriculum Changes

### *Speech and Theatre*

#### **Inactivation of Course**

COMM 5000 Communication in the Educational Environment, effective Fall 2011

### *Elementary and Special Education*

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

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Revise the Ed.S. Program (Curriculum and Instruction Major) to allow candidates to enroll in four courses (12 hours) outside the Curriculum and Instruction major. No new courses are required; effective Summer 2011

### *Biology*

#### **Proposed New Course**

BIOL 7900 Teaching and Learning Biology, 3 credit hours, effective Summer 2011

### *Educational Leadership*

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

Change LIBS to mean Library Science (no longer Library Service), effective 2011

## *College of Graduate Studies*

### **Other**

Create a Certificate in U.S. Culture and Education, requires completion of 12 credit hours, effective Fall 2011

### **Proposed New Course**

CGS 5500      Understanding U.S. Culture and Education, 3 credit hours, effective Fall 2011