

# GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

January 23, 2015

The Graduate Council met at 2:00 p.m. in Ingram 101. Chair Nita Brooks presided.

## I. Call to Order

### **Members present:**

Vaughn Barry, Ginny Dansby, Bichaka Fayissa, Josh Howard, Robert Kalwinsky, Steve Livingston, Pamela Morris, Dwight Patterson, Lencie Plancher, Cliff Welborn, and Jeremy Winters

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

Jackie Eller, Interim Dean, College of Graduate Studies  
Scott Handy, Interim Associate Dean, College of Graduate Studies

## II. Announcements

### A. **Dr. Nita Brooks, Chair**

Dr. Brooks opened the meeting at 2:04 pm.

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

Dr. Eller announced that the College of Graduate Studies will be hosting Tuesdays @ Ingram for graduate students beginning February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ingram 101 will be open on Tuesdays between 10:00 am – 11:00 am and 4:00 pm – 5:45 pm for graduate students to meet casually. This will be a great opportunity for graduate students to become more connected with the campus community.

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

Dr. Handy asked Lisa Mitchell to give a quick overview of our new reporting tool, Argos. This will be a great tool to use for gathering report data for department use on such topics as the number of prospective graduates by program and term, admissions tracking, degrees awarded, etc. Argos has already been made available to department secretaries. By mid-February, we are hopeful that ITD will have it available to faculty members. To access the site, use the URL [evmaps.fsa.mtsu.edu](http://evmaps.fsa.mtsu.edu) without the www. Your login username and password is the same as the one you use to log in to your desktop computer. Once logged in, click on Argos Web Viewer.

Dr. Handy wanted to bring further clarification to the 3 + 1 + 1 procedures. He distributed a handout (attached) outlining a clarification to the already existing procedures. This particular handout uses the College of Mass Communication as an example.

### **III. Approval of minutes from last meeting—December 12, 2014**

*A motion was made to accept the minutes of the December 12, 2014 meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.*

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

#### **A. Graduate Faculty and Curriculum Review Dr. Vaughn Barry, Chair**

- The January Consent Calendar is attached.
- *A motion was made to accept the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded and passed.*

#### **B. Student Affairs and Travel Dr. Kathleen Darby, Chair**

- No report at this time.

#### **C. Policies and Procedures Dr. Bichaka Fayissa, Chair**

- No report at this time.

#### **D. Graduate Program Review Dr. Ginny Dansby, Chair**

- No report at this time.

### **V. Old Business**

### **VI. New Business**

- Graduate Student Association President, Josh Howard, noted that the printing allocations for students have changed effective January 20<sup>th</sup>. Printing is no longer free. Students are now limited to the number of copies they can print before they will need to add funds to their Blue ID card. Beginning January 20<sup>th</sup>, students can print approximately 320 black and white or 140 color prints each semester. These changes affect all campus

labs. Josh is concerned about there being no distinction in the number of copies allocated for undergraduate and graduate students.

- Dr. Handy distributed some handouts (attached) pertaining to English Language Proficiency Standards. Dr. Handy discussed the English language standards of our peer institutions in comparison to those of MTSU. Some of the points of discussion included:
  - Should individual programs set their own English Language Standards as opposed to using those already in place by the College of Graduate Studies?
  - Concern about programs being **perceived** as being unwelcoming to international students.
  - Should we raise our standards for the TOEFL PBT/TOEFL IBT/IELTS?
  - Is it time to consider having not just required competency in spoken English but in written English as well for GTAs?

Dr. Handy asked the council members to have discussions about the above-mentioned matters within their own departments.

*There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:28 pm. The next Graduate Council meeting is scheduled for February 27<sup>th</sup>.*

## Graduate Council – Consent Calendar January 23, 2015

### Graduate Faculty Membership

Shannon Harmon / Elementary and Special Education / EdD  
Yating Hu / Engineering Technology / PhD  
Darren Levin / Speech and Theatre / MFA  
Mike Linton / Music / PhD  
Joseph Morgan / Music / PhD  
Rebecca Seipelt-Thiemann / Biology / PhD  
Stephen Shearon / Music / PhD

### Adjunct

Dana Autry / Health and Human Performance / PhD  
Pamela Ertel / Educational Leadership / EdD  
Andra Helton / Elementary and Special Education / EdD  
Paul Henderson / Music / MM  
Angela Risto / Educational Leadership / EdD  
Joey Shaw / Biology / PhD -

### Graduate Curriculum Changes

#### *Geosciences*

##### Change in Credit Hours

PGEO 6060    Advanced Topics in Geosciences  
Change credit hours from 3 credit hours to variable credit of 1 to 3 hours,  
effective Summer 2015

#### *Educational Leadership*

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

For the MED Curriculum and Instruction – English as a Second Language Concentration, add program restriction to the following courses:

SPSE 6800    Language and Linguistics for ESL Teachers  
YOED 6030    Content Instruction for ELLs  
SPSE 6715    Applied Research and Practice in EIL Environments

Changes to be effective Summer 2015

#### *Aerospace*

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

MS in Aviation Administration – Aviation Education Concentration: In addition to the 18 hours of core course, note the prescribed 6 hours of required Education Courses, choose 6 hours of Education Electives, and choose 6 hours of required Aerospace Electives, effective Fall 2015

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## ***Computer Information Systems***

### **Proposed New Courses**

BIA 6905	Applied Business Analytics, 3 credit hours, effective Fall 2015
BIA 6910	Business Intelligence, 3 credit hours, effective Fall 2015
BIA 6920	Data Mining and Predictive Analytics, 3 credit hours, effective Fall 2015
INFS 6810	Big Data for Analytics, 3 credit hours, effective Fall 2015
INFS 6835	IT Applications for Decision Making, 2 credit hours, Fall 2015
INFS 6855	Information Systems, 2 credit hours, effective Fall 2015

## ***Business Administration***

### **Change in Admission to Program     must go to TBR**

Change the Admission Requirements to accept both GRE and GMAT scores, effective Summer 2015

Change in core course offerings, effective Fall 2015

### **Proposed New Course**

MBA 6805	Professional Development Seminar, 1 credit hour, effective Fall 2015
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## ***Accounting***

### **Proposed New Courses**

ACTG 6815	Accounting Information for Managers, 2 credit hours, effective Fall 2015
ACTG 6885	Decision Making in Accounting and Finance, 3 credit hours, effective Fall 2015

## ***Management and Marketing***

### **Proposed New Courses**

BUAD 6915	Integrated Marketing and Management Decision Making, 3 credit hours, effective Fall 2015
BUAD 6925	Strategic Business Consulting, 4 credit hours, effective Fall 2015
MGMT 6825	Leading Organizations, 2 credit hours, effective Fall 2015
MGMT 6875	Supply Chain Operations, 3 credit hours, effective Fall 2015
MKT 6895	Marketing Strategy, 2 credit hours, effective Fall 2015

## ***Economics and Finance***

### **Proposed New Courses**

ECON 6865	Economic Decisions for Managers, 2 credit hours, effective Fall 2015
FIN 6845	Managerial Finance, 2 credit hours, effective Fall 2015
FIN 6885	Decision Making in Accounting and Finance, 3 credit hours, effective Fall 2015

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## ***Electronic Media Communication***

### **Inactivation of Course**

MC 6350 Cultural Studies in Popular Music, effective Fall 2015

## ***Professional Science***

### **Other must go to TBR**

Revisions to the MS in Professional Science – Healthcare Informatics Concentration, effective Summer 2015

## ***Elementary and Special Education***

### **Course Title Change/Reactivation**

ELED 6290/7290 Reactivate ELED 7290

Change Title from Inquiry and Problem-Based Learning to **Research into Practice**, effective Summer 2015

### **Other must go to TBR/needs cover memo**

Deactivation of both the Early Childhood Concentration and the Middle School Concentration; restructure course offerings in the Elementary Education Concentration, effective Summer 2015

### **Change in Credit Hours and Dual-List**

ELED 6220/7220 Seminar in Elementary Education, change to 1-3 credit hours, effective Summer 2015

## **TABLED ITEMS**

Educational Leadership --- Changes in admission requirements for the MED Curriculum and Instruction – Concentration in English as Second Language

**Clarification of 3+1+1 procedures between the College of Mass Communication at MTSU and the Communication University of China:**

1. All students attending MTSU under this 3+1+1 program must contact the College of Graduate Studies (CGS) upon arrival so that they are clearly identified as participants and for necessary advising to occur. In conjunction with the graduate advisor, this advising will include creation of a plan of study and recommendations for language training as appropriate;
2. (Reference D.5.) Although admission is guaranteed as specified:
  - a. Students must make application for graduate study in the spring of their first year at MTSU. Transcripts showing the degree completion from CUC are to be received by the College of Graduate Studies prior to the students entering into their last year of study;
  - b. The College of Graduate Studies agrees to waive the English proficiency requirement IF the student completes his/her graduate courses (at least 9 hrs.) taken at MTSU with a B or better in all courses. If a B is not achieved in all classes, the student must meet current CGS English proficiency requirements;
  - c. If a student should be offered a GTA position while at MTSU, the student must meet the English proficiency requirements for GTAs as stated in the MTSU catalog.
3. (Reference C.) Note that a student may count up to, but not exceed, 12 hours of graduate credit prior to formal acceptance into a program of study. According to MTSU/CGS regulations, no more than 30% of a student's program of study may be accepted at the 5000 level.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Interim Dean of the College of Graduate Studies

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice Provost for International Affairs

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dean, College of Mass Communication

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Required Competency in English for Graduate Teaching Assistants

Pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution 211 adopted by the 1984 General Assembly, the accreditation standards of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (4.4.1), and the Tennessee Board of Regents (Policy No. 5:02:01:03) MTSU requires all graduate teaching assistants (GTA) to demonstrate competency in spoken English.

Specifically, Graduate Teaching Assistants whose first language is not English are required to demonstrate an appropriate level of fluency in one of the following manners.

- Submission of a minimum score of 21 on the Speaking subscale of the iBT TOEFL for appointment where the GTA has direct verbal interactions with students.
- Submission of a minimum score of 26 on the Speaking subscale of the iBT TOEFL for appointment where the GTA presents lectures in the class or laboratory (A GTA presenting a score of 25 may be assigned to instructional duties on a probationary status for one semester. <sup>1</sup>)
- Submission of a minimum score of 6.5 on the Speaking subscale of the academic version of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) test
- Submission of a minimum score of 40 on the Test of Spoken English (TSE) or the Speaking Proficiency English Assessment Kit (SPEAK) for appointment where the GTA has direct verbal interactions with students.
- Submission of a minimum score of 50 on the Test of Spoken English (TSE) or the Speaking Proficiency English Assessment Kit (SPEAK) for appointment where the GTA presents lectures in the class or laboratory. (GTA presenting a score of 45 may be assigned to instructional duties on a probationary status for one semester. <sup>1</sup>)

<sup>1</sup> *GTAs assigned instructional duties on a probationary status must be observed by a member of their department and a faculty member from another department to establish that they are successful in the performance of their teaching duties. Written verification of agreement among the two observers that the GTA is sufficiently fluent in English must be submitted to the College of Graduate Studies before the GTA may be assigned teaching duties in a subsequent term.*

*NOTE -Date of test score must be no more than two years prior to first semester at MTSU.*



Peer Institution Language Standards (TOEFL PBT/TOEFL IBT/IELTS)

MTSU current	525/71/6.0
MTSU proposed	550/79/6.0 (6.5?)

TBR

ETSU	550/79/6.5
APSU	500/61/6.0
TSU	500/61/?
TTU	525/71/5.5
Memphis	550/79/6.0
Average	525/70/6.0

NSSE Peers (2011 list)

Sam Houston	unclear
Texas Tech	550/79/6.5
UT at Arlington	vary by program
UT at San Antonio	550/79/6.5
UNC Charlotte	557/83/6.5
UNC Greensboro	550/79/6.5
Average	551/80/6.5

Institutional Peers (2011)

Florida Atlantic	550/81/6.5
Florida International	vary by program and level
University of Central Florida	220?/80/6.5
George Mason	570/88/6.5
Georgia State	by program
Georgia Southern	unclear
Old Dominion	by program
U of New Orleans	unclear
U of North Texas	-/79/6.5
U of Southern Miss	unclear
Average	?/82/6.5