Graduate and Professional Studies Council
Minutes of
Regular Meeting December 6, 2011

A regular meeting of the University of Houston Graduate and Professional Studies Council convened at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, December 6, 2011 in the Social Work Building Conference Room, 110J.

I. Attendance

Members Present:
Dick Abrahamson, KiJoon Back, Dorothy Baker, Kevin Bassler, Driss Benhaddou, Roger Boltz, Anne Delcour, Barbara Evans, Shirley Ezell, Laura Frishman, Dietmar Froehlich, Stuart Hall (Ex Officio), Paul Janicke, Michael Johnson, Suresh Khator, EunSook Kwon, Rafael Longoria, Heidar Malki, Haluk Ogmen, Jim Phillips, Cathy Patterson, Paul Raffoul, Susan Robbins, Andrea Smesny, Karl Titz, and Steve Werner.

Members Absent:
Jacquie Hawkins, Randall Lee, Sean Tarver, Melanie Pang.

Staff:
Alma Flores

Guests:
John Antel, Debbie Henry

I. Call to Order
- The meeting was called to order at 12.02 pm by Shirley Ezell, Chair, GPSC.

II. Approval of the Minutes

- Minutes of November 1, 2011 were approved as written.

III. Guest – John Antel, Provost
- Areas of focus in graduate education at UH
    - Continuing professional education
        - UH is adopting a more market-driven, business model in graduate education - Expanding certification programs; (ex. MBA, EMBA), programs to Northwest and Sugarland campuses
        - Terminal Master's programs
        - The primary reason for focusing on such programs is economics – increase the number of positive revenue

generating that will help support/subsidize other programs that are less revenue-generating
    - As UH is not a private institution, UH should support areas not normally driven by the market.
    - Focus on demand-driven degrees and how they fit with the goals of the university – health, international education, energy.
- Doctoral programs: The PhD is essential to the goal of establishing UH as a research university.
    - Number of graduated PhDs increased from 200 in 2010 to 238 in 2011.
    - Goal is to graduate 300 PhDs.
- Long term goal is to establish 25% of the student population in central campus as graduate/professional.
- Not duplicate degrees in other system campuses
- Apply new enrollment policies across the system
    - Main Campus as the premiere institution, with highest number of PhD programs
    - Close off open enrollment at UH Downtown
    - Specialties for each system campus
- Dedicate support primarily to students in terminal PhD degrees
- Question from Dr. Patterson in regards to professional programs and identifying market needs:
    - Are there resources for departments to find market needs
        a. Utilizing the Texas workforce commission
    - How is UH to incentivize these programs
        a. Targeting incentives. Ex. MPA; communication
        b. Allocate funding for adjunct faculty working out in the field.
    - Market research supports programs in charging premium tuition. UH is expecting another round of budget cuts. They will not be as deep as this year. However, UH is trending towards being more cost effective and competitive.
- Question from Dr. Baker on subsidizing creative writing programs
    - Increase in PhD support by 1 million/year, the change is in how the funds are being distributed, from central to program-specific.
    - Stipends have not increased however, the goal is to have longer term contracts for support/multiple year offers

- Question from Technology on Intellectual property and incentives for faculty/startups.
    a. Dr. Bose is the VC/VP for Research/Technology Transfer.
    b. UH receives about 8 million/year from patents/licensing
    c. Dr. Bose's office is responsible for helping develop the staff that supports promoting startups- which can be very difficult, as many ideas do not usually end up with an end-product
    d. Working with local/regional innovations, creating modules that push towards the development grad programs to address those demands.
- Faculty Senate is in the comment period for the revision of the Faculty Workload Policy. The comment period is through February-middle March. GPSC members may provide comments to Dr. Antel.
    a. The revised policy will not be much different from the traditional.
    b. A highlight of the change is that colleges/departments will be more responsible for making a policy that is more specific and monitor/track more closely.
    c. The aim is to better measure faculty productivity, research/scholarship, accountability/credibility with external organizations and students.
- GPS Leadership
    a. UH has taken a more decentralized approach

IV. Announcements/Information

V. Reports by Representatives to Academic Governance Committees

- Representative to Graduate Education Policies Committee in Faculty Senate, Karl Titz
    - Margaret Watson is working with this committee in drafting an exit survey. GPSC members will be able to look at the survey when it is complete.

VI. Reports on Related University Committees

- Representative to Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Roger Boltz
    - Faculty Senate is currently taking responses for the Workload Policy revision

- Faculty Senate is currently looking into moving into an online teaching evaluation process. One issue is storing the evaluations for access by students. Currently, the paper records are housed in the library
- The survey conducted on financial aid appears to affect the professional students the most. The survey deals with the responsiveness of financial aid. (This information is not currently published on the Faculty Senate Website)

- Representative to the Teaching Excellence Committee, Susan Robbins
  - The committee met and narrowed down finalists who have been notified and will be observed in the spring.

VII. Report from Graduate & Professional Studies, Stuart Hall

- Graduate catalog test site is up; the official catalog will be published in the next weeks. The layout of the information will remain in effect for this academic year, but it may be re-organized for the next academic year.
- Program Reviews. UH will begin the 7 year cycle of review for the 162 graduate programs. The report will go to the CB and include an institutional response.
- Bacterial Meningitis requirement in effect for spring 2012 for newly admitted students in Spring 2012 or students under 30 years of age who are returning from a leave of absence.
  - Students must have done the vaccination by the 7th of January.
  - Students who do not have the vaccination by the 7th may be allowed to register, but they cannot attend class until 10 days after the inoculation of the vaccine.
  - Students who decide to opt out must file with the state (not via UH) directly.

III. Standing Committee Reports

- <u>Academic Program Evaluation Committee, Dorothy Baker</u>
  - New:
    - GPSC 7041 11F: Proposal for new MA in Arts Leadership
    - GPSC 7045 11F: Proposal for Graduate Certificate Program in Process Engineering and Modeling
    - GPSC 7046 11F: Modification of Graduate Certificate Program in Subsea Engineering

- Pending:
    - GPSC 6855 11S: Proposal for a 3-1 program in Chemistry with the Sun Yat-Sen University in China

- <u>Course Evaluation and Review Committee, Paul Raffoul</u>
    - Pending: GPSC Items 6864-7039

- <u>Graduate Admissions & Student Affairs Committee, Jim Phillips</u>
    - New:
        - Comments are requested on the following revisions to MAPP Policy, as introduced in the University Coordinating Committee, due 12/22/2011:
            - GPSC 7042 11F: MAPP 12.03.01 Extension Programs Review of proposed changes
    - Pending:
        - GPSC 6862 11F: University-wide admission requirements for Pre-Grads
        - GPSC 6863 11F: University-wide admission requirements for Graduate Certificate Programs

- <u>Graduate Policies Committee, Laura Frishman</u>
    - New:
        - Comments are requested on the following revisions to MAPP Policy, as introduced in the University Coordinating Committee, due 12/22/2011:
            - GPSC 7043 11F: MAPP 10.03.01 Computer Use Responsibilities: review of proposed changes by UCC
        - Comments are requested on the following policy revision as introduced by the Faculty Affairs Committee in the Faculty Senate:
            - GPSC 7044 11F: Revision of Academic Workload Policy in the 2011 Faculty Handbook
    - Pending:
        - GPSC 7040 11F: Review of Academic Policies and Procedures

IV. Unfinished Business

V. New Business

VI. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 1.34 pm.