

Graduate and Professional Studies Council  
**Minutes of**  
**Regular Meeting November 1, 2011**

A regular meeting of the University of Houston Graduate and Professional Studies Council convened at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, November 1, 2011 in the Social Work Building Conference Room, 110J.

I. Attendance

*Members Present:*

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

*Members Absent:*

Driss Benhaddou, Jacquie Hawkins, Michael Johnson, EunSook Kwon, Randall Lee, Sean Tarver, Melanie Pang.

*Staff:*

Alma Flores

*Guests:*

Jerald Strickland, Debbie Henry

I. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12.03 pm by Shirley Ezell, Chair, GPSC.

II. Approval of the Minutes

- Minutes of October 4, 2011 were approved as written.

III. Guest – Jerald Strickland, International Programs

- His office handles most programs at either the beginning of the establishment of MOUs or towards the final phase of approval of MOUs between UH and International universities.
- There are different types of programs:
  - Faculty-initiated -- 100 MOUs on file, approximately 50 are active with faculty advocates.
  - Student exchange programs – tuition and fees paid at home institution. There are more students coming into the university than outgoing UH students.

- Criteria for participating universities:
  - Prefer accredited universities
- Approval process:
  - All programs are ceremonial until they have been approved by the Provost or Provost's designee, which is usually Dr. Charlson.
  - If any MOUs are at the graduate and professional level and require substantial change, they should all be reviewed by GPSC. One current example is the proposal for the 3+1 M.S. in Chemistry program in China.
- Examples of good programs:
  - Faculty-led study abroad programs are the strongest programs
  - Offshore degree programs (ie. Bauer's EMBA Global Energy Management, Beijing, Dubai. Face-to-face; same courses as the Executive MBA program on campus.
  - Online teleconference course with Bethlehem University
- Q&A
  - Is there a database to view current MOUs?
    - Yes, it is available on the OISP website (<http://www.uh.edu/academics/intlstu/>)
- Interested faculty may contact Dr. Strickland for presentation materials/templates.
- Faculty members who plan to visit a campus are encouraged to contact OISP for information whether there is an existing program there, so as to maintain relationships with the universities and the individuals from those programs.
- Last year, 68 delegations from around the world visited UH campus – more are expected this year.
- Approximately 4300 nonimmigrant International students on campus (which includes degree-seeking programs, LCC, and OPT programs).
- 2009 data indicates that UH is 23<sup>rd</sup> in nation in numbers of nonimmigrant International students and number 3 in Texas.
- The top schools have 8-12% nonimmigrant international students; UH has about 9%.
- 122 Countries represented on UH Main Campus; 140 in UH System.
- Fiscal impact in Texas of all international students in Texas– approximately 15 billion/yr.
- November 14-18 is International Education Week.
- Dr. Hall added that in terms of enrollment in Graduate and Professional programs at UH Main Campus, 23% of students are International.

IV. Announcements/Information

- Sharepoint security revisions:
  - All members will have 'View' access on most posted information, with the exception of: Committee document libraries, and Committee Discussion Boards.
  - GPSC members will have 'Contribute' (read, write) access to their respective committee document library/discussion board.
- GPSC meeting minutes will be published on the main Graduate and Professional Studies website for view.
- Update on interest loans for DSTF recipients (from Randall Lee, who was not in attendance)
  - Students were not found to be charged interest on housing.
  - It was found that students were charged interest on the DSTF award amount, even if it posted on time and before the interest calculation process occurred.
  - Student Financial Services is working to correct this error and interest charges are reflecting on outstanding balances as owed by the student.
  - It had not yet been determined whether all interest on all DSTF recipients would be waived; however it was decided that if it can be proven that any delays in processing awards were not at the fault of the student, then the interest would be waived.

V. Reports by Representatives to Academic Governance Committees

- No report.

VI. Reports on Related University Committees

- Representative to Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Roger Boltz
  - Currently, standing Deans are reviewed every five years. Faculty Senate intends to launch an interim off-cycle review. This may or may not have been shared with Deans.
  - Faculty Senate will be reviewing student Financial Aid system, processes, to find areas for improvement. Meetings will be held with upper-level administration in the next few weeks.
  - Graduate/Professional committee developing a survey for exiting students to gather information on their experience from admissions, financial aid, other and matters pertaining to graduate student life at UH.
- Representative to the Teaching Excellence Committee, Susan Robbins
  - Criteria have been posted. Nominations are being submitted.

VII. Report from Graduate & Professional Studies, Stuart Hall

- No report.

## VIII. Standing Committee Reports

- Academic Program Evaluation Committee, Dorothy Baker
  - New:
  - Approved:
    - GPSC 6859 11F: Proposal for a Graduate Certificate in Supply Chain Management
      - Addendum: the committee suggests that Bauer use related Technology courses as electives.
    - GPSC 6861 11F: Proposal for curricular changes in the DMA program
  - Pending:
    - GPSC 6855 11S: Proposal for a 3-1 program in Chemistry with the Sun Yat-Sen University in China
- Course Evaluation and Review Committee, Paul Raffoul
  - CBM003 Forms are posted in Sharepoint; will begin review.
- Graduate Admissions & Student Affairs Committee, Jim Phillips
  - New:
    - GPSC 6862 11F: University-wide admission requirements for Pre-Grads
      - Will begin review.
    - GPSC 6863 11F: University-wide admission requirements for Graduate Certificate Programs
      - Will begin review.
- Graduate Policies Committee, Laura Frishman
  - New:
    - GPSC 7040 11F: Review of Academic Policies and Procedures
      - Graduate Catalog/Faculty Handbook policies will be reviewed and compared with Texas schools and other large research institutions/Tier-One schools/aspirational peers.

## IX. Unfinished Business

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## X. New Business

- A question was raised regarding the new score equivalencies for the revised GRE. This information has not been posted by ETS. GPSC may discuss at later time if the standard GRE score will need to be changed.
- GPSC members may view the US News and World Report to view the average GRE scores of graduate programs.

XI. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 1:01.