Graduate and Professional Studies Council
Minutes of
Regular Meeting May 1, 2012

A regular meeting of the University of Houston Graduate and Professional Studies Council convened at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, May 1, 2012 in the Social Work Building Conference Room, 110J.

I. Attendance

Members Present:
Dick Abrahamson, KiJoon Back, Dorothy Baker, Driss Benhaddou, Roger Boltz, Anne Delcour, , Shirley Ezell, Laura Frishman, Dietmar Froehlich, Stuart Hall (Ex Officio), Jacquie Hawkins, Michael Johnson, Suresh Khator, EunSook Kwon, Randall Lee, Rafael Longoria, Heidar Malki, Paul Raffoul, Susan Robbins, Andrea Smesny, Karl Titz, and Steve Werner.

Members Absent:
Kevin Bassler, Barbara Evans, Paul Janicke, Haluk Ogmen, Jim Phillips, Cathy Patterson, Sean Tarver, Melanie Pang,

Staff:
Alma Flores

Guests:
President Renu Khator, Dr. Holley, Dr. Krishnamoorti, and Dr. Jacobson.

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 April 3, 2012 were approved as written.

III. Announcements/Information
  - Guest – Dr. Allan Jacobson, Productivity Assessment, TcSUH Internal Evaluation Process
    - Discussed the assessment program as a model.
    - TcSUH is an Interdisciplinary program comprised of faculty and student from Engineering, Math, Physics, Geosciences. The program is managed by committees, with elected committee chairs that serve 2 year terms. The evaluation process is handled through the research committee.

- Productivity is ranked /weighted individually by:
    - Publications/Presentations (30%) - count publications (extra credit given if topic is related to superconductivity) by PI within the established categories and include demonstrations, talks, and normalized by the funding they receive from the center.
    - Leverage – additional state funding generated, or private, federal funding; is given more credit by the level of funding; proposal writing is normalized by line item funding; extra credit is given if superconductivity research is funded.
    - Education/service – number of degrees
    - Technology transfer – patents; royalties; licensing
- Score is from 1 – 100/ each category given a weight; PI's are rank ordered by the score.
- The committee applies weights within set ranges; are adjusted by individual to maximize the score; combined rankings used for the PIs. Once the rankings are set, with proposals, the budget is allocated. It can take weeks for the research committee to allocate the budget, which occurs sometime in July.
- Q & A – What if the faculty rate lower?
    - Budget is reduced ; if there is no improvement, then phased out.
- Do you ask PIs to suggest weighting?
    - Yes, they are asked to suggest weights

- Comments by President Renu Khator
    - Suggest that a committee be created to establish a forum for graduate student networking, orientation, support, and communication. Consider the models as used by HRM, Business for best practices.
    - The policy on the smoke-free environment primarily involves eligibility for funding for CIPRIT, and the policy has been adapted from the existing policy from UT
    - Dual degree program/partnerships - UH is looking into establishing more global partnerships. As the worldwide demand grows for higher education, now is the time for UH to establish such partnerships.

- In the last two legislative sessions there has been a call to remove international tuition waivers. UH is fighting against this. Recommend that administrators send communication to the legislature in support of the President.

IV. Reports by Representatives to Academic Governance Committees

- Representative to Research and Scholarship Committee, Randall Lee
  - Approved guidelines for core faculty proposals due early fall for amounts over 400K
  - Budget Faculty meeting to be held on May 16th, 1.00p.m 306 MD Anderson Library - will cover the university master plan; Melissa Rockwell will discuss renovations and Bob Browand, Parking

V. Reports on Related University Committees

- Representative to Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Shirley Ezell
  - The last Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting and a proposed meeting with the Provost to resolve unfinished business.
- Representative to the Teaching Excellence Committee, Susan Robbins
  - Last Thursday the awards ceremony was held and awards were given.
- Representative to Graduate Education Policies Committee in Faculty Senate, Haluk Ogmen
  - No Report

VI. Report from Graduate & Professional Studies, Stuart Hall

- No Report; Dr. Hall has completed his first year term as Associate Vice President of Graduate and Professional Studies

III. Standing Committee Reports

- <u>Academic Program Evaluation Committee, Dorothy Baker</u>
  - Approved:
    - GPSC 7064 12S: Proposal for Master of Science in Industrial Design
    - GPSC 7065 12S: Proposal for Master of Arts in Applied Economics in Kyiv
    - GPSC 7056 12S: Proposal for new concentration in Sacred Music within the M.M. in Applied Music
    - GPSC 7057 12S: SAM 02.A.37 Human Resources: Security Sensitive Positions – review of proposed changes by UCC
      - No comment
    - GPSC 7061 12S: Changes to the Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction
    - GPSC 7062 12S: Proposal for Modification of M.S. in Petroleum Well Design Engineering

        - GPSC 7063 12S: Proposal for Modification of M.S. in Petroleum Well Completions and Interventions

- <u>Course Evaluation and Review Committee, Paul Raffoul</u>
    - New:
    - Approved:

- <u>Graduate Admissions & Student Affairs Committee, Jim Phillips</u>
    - Approved:
        - GPSC 7060 12S: MAPP 07.02.02 Smoke Free Environments at the University of Houston – review of university bill requesting changes to the existing policy
            - The committee found that there might be issue with enforcement of the policy

- <u>Graduate Policies Committee, Laura Frishman</u>
    - Approved:
        - GPSC 7040 11F: Review of Academic Policies and Procedures
            - Did not find any policies within the faculty handbook that were not addressed already in the graduate catalog. Recommend improving the navigation; and also recommend a university level policy on the composition of the doctoral committee and identify the requirements for eligibility to serve on the committees. Additional recommendation would include policy on maternity leave for graduate students.
        - GPSC 7058 12S: MAPP 01.01.01 Administrative Policies and Procedures – review of proposed changes by UCC
            - This appears to affect primarily Administration and Finance; the timeline for implementation of policies procedures are difficult to follow; difficulty tracking the workflow of the implementation timeline.
        - GPSC 7059 12S: MAPP 12.02.01 Data Coordination, Verification, and Submission to the Office of Institutional Research – review of proposed changes by UCC
            - No comment

IV. Unfinished Business

V. New Business
    - Special Recognition was made to committee chairpersons. Dr. Ezell presented merit award certificates to Committee Chairs and recognized and thanked members for their services for Graduate and Professional Studies Council, 2012 academic year.

VI. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 12.58 pm.