UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

Graduate and Professional Studies Council

Minutes of
Regular Meeting October 2, 2012

A regular meeting of the University of Houston Graduate and Professional Studies Council convened at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, October 2, 2012 in the Social Work Building Conference Room, 110J.

I. Attendance

Members Present:
KiJoon Back, Dorothy Baker, Kevin Bassler, Roger Boltz, Anne Delcour, Barbara Evans, Shirley Ezell, Laura Frishman, Dietmar Froehlich, Deniz Gurkan, Stuart Hall (Ex Officio), Jacquie Hawkins, Catherine Horn, Suresh Khator, EunSook Kwon, Haluk Ogmen, Catherine Patterson, Jim Phillips, Paul Raffoul, Andrea Smesny, Karl Titz, Steve Werner, and Sheara Williams.

Members Absent:
Paul Janicke, Michael Johnson

Staff:
Alma Flores

II. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12.00 p.m. by Karl Titz, Chair, GPSC.

III. Approval of the Minutes

- Minutes of the September 4, 2012 meeting were approved as written.

IV. Announcements/Information

- Finalized selection of representatives to Academic Governance Committees
  - Teaching Excellence Committee representative needed
  - Additional member of the Course Evaluation and Review Committee

V. Reports by Representatives to Academic Governance Committees

- Representative to Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Karl Titz
  - UCC distributed various MAPP policies under revision including change in formation of UCC – note the change eliminates GPSC from the process.
  - GPSC is asked to provide comment on the proposed changes.

- Representative to Teaching Excellence Committee, TBD
  - Request for member of GPSC to participate was made. No selection as of yet.

- Representative to the Faculty Senate Research and Scholarship Committee, Randall Lee
  - Committee has received proposals for core facilities program; deadline was Monday.

    - External NSF/MRI programs.
    - Committee is looking at the issues of DSTF funding, in particular, over summer terms, and whether DSTF is able to pay tuition+fees.
    - Changes to internal research programs:
        - No changes to new faculty, small grant programs, however, there was one change in GEAR program following an increase in applications.

- Representative to the Faculty Senate Graduate Policies Committee, Haluk Ogmen
    - Committee is looking into the issues regarding Master's level students:
        - Professional programs
        - How to help grow Masters Programs
        - How to make them more beneficial to departments

VI. Report from Graduate and Professional Studies, Stuart Hall

- Made brief presentation at Faculty Senate and discussed final counts of graduate students over the last year. Goal is to graduate 250 PhDs by 2015.
- THECB has revised policy on low producing programs (LPP). Originally, in 2010, minimum rates of productivity were defined as 2 Doctoral, 3 Masters, 5 Bachelors degrees awarded each year averaged over 5 years. The policy was implemented immediately and counted back from 2006. As a result, a lot of programs were changed or consolidated. This year THECB has defined new limits for LPP - 3 Doctoral, 5 Masters, 8 Bachelors degrees per year when averaged over 5 years. Counts will begin next year and the first evaluation will be in 2018. This change will give programs time to help boost Master's degree completion; however it may not be as easy with Bachelor's and Doctoral students.

VII. Standing Committee Reports

- Academic Program Evaluation, Roger Boltz
    - New:
    - Pending:
    - Approved:
        - **GPSC 7078 12F**: Proposal for Executive Master of Hospitality Management
        - **GPSC 7079 12F**: Proposal for Accelerated BS/MS Program Beijing Normal University and Department of Physics with 1 year review
        - **GPSC 7080 12F**: Proposal for Accelerated BS/MS East China University and Department of Chemistry with 1 year review
        - **GPSC 7081 12F**: Proposal for Accelerated BS/MS Jiangsu University and Department of Chemistry with 1 year review
        - **GPSC 7082 12F**: Proposal for Accelerated BS/MS Nanjing University and Department of Physics with 1 year review
        - **GPSC 7083 12F**: Proposal for Accelerated BS/MS East China University and Department of Mathematics with 1 year review
        - **GPSC 7084 12F**: Proposal for Accelerated BS/MS Degree Sun Yat-Sen University and Dept of Physics with 1 year review
        - **GPSC 7085 12F**: Proposal for Accelerated BS/MS Degree Nanjing University and Department of Chemistry with 1 year review
        - **GPSC 7086 12F**: Proposal for Professional Master of Athletic Training

- Course Evaluation and Review, Paul Raffoul
    - No report.

- Graduate Admissions and Student Affairs, Andrea Smesny
    - No report.

- Graduate Policies, Cathy Patterson
    - New:
    - Pending:
        - **GPSC 7087 12F**: Review of proposed changes to MAPP Policy on University Coordinating Commission (UCC 0267 12F)
        - **GPSC 7088 12F**: Review of proposed changes to MAPP Policy on Parental Leave (UCC 0268 12F)
        - **GPSC 7089 12F**: Review of proposed changes to MAPP Policy on Leaves of Absence (UCC 0269 12F)
        - **GPSC 7090 12F**: Review of proposed changes to Employment Eligibility Verification I-9 (UCC 0270 12F)
        - **GPSC 7091 12F**: Review of proposed changes to MAPP Policy on Reduction in Force (UCC 0271 12F)
        - **GPSC 7092 12F**: Review of proposed changes to MAPP Policy on Access to/Maintenance of Personnel Records (UCC 0272 12F)
    - Approved:
        - **GPSC 7093 12F**: Review of proposed changes to MAPP Policy on Emergency Management Policy (UCC 0273 12F): No comments specific to GPSC
        - **GPSC 7094 12F**: Review of proposed changes to MAPP Policy on Business Continuity Planning (UCC 0274 12F): No comments specific to GPSC. Impact to graduate departments would include insuring that courses remain continuous in times of emergency; departments will need to maintain business continuity plans.
    - Unfinished Business

VIII. New Business

- Discussion of ad hoc committee to evaluate GPSC and Faculty Senate Relationship, Dr. Hawkins
    - Suggest a 7-person committee, including Dr. Hawkins including representatives from the large colleges/professional schools with a balance of associate deans and faculty. Dr. Boltz and Dr. Ezell would act as consultants to the committee.
    - GPSC members opted to self-select:
        - Dr. Khator
        - Dr. Raffoul
        - Dr. Boltz
        - Dr. Ezell
        - Dr. Werner
        - Dr. Evans

- Dr. Williams asked if there are any university level policies that address out-of-college enrollment.
    - There is currently no university policy; students requesting enrollment in courses available at another college may petition. Depending on availability of seats, students may be approved to take the course.
    - Typically courses are prerequisites needed for the current plan.
    - It was recommended that the program identify those out-of-college courses and work with the Associate Dean of the college for a process allowing such enrollment.

IX. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 12.58 p.m.