

University of Houston  
Graduate and Professional Studies Council  
**Minutes of**  
**Regular Meeting September 4, 2007**

A regular meeting of the University of Houston Graduate and Professional Studies Council convened at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, September 4, 2007 in Room 220 E. Cullen, President's Board Room

I. Attendance

*Members Present:*

KiJoon Back, Driss Benhaddou, Roger Boltz, Henry Chafetz, Doug Eikenburg, Shirley Ezell, Laura Frishman, Karen Holmes, Paul Janicke, Eli Jones, Nora Laos, Marco Mariotto (ex officio), Brian McFarlin, Robert McPherson, Michael Nikolaou, Tim O'Brien, Cathy Patterson, Latha Ramchand, Amy Sater, Susan Scarrow, Larry Witte Shara Zatopek.

*Members Absent:*

Tom Colbert, Chuck Layne, Paul R. Raffoul, Josephine Tittsworth.

*Staff:*

Brenda Robles, Margaret Watson, Yolizma Zapata.

*Guests:*

Libby Barlow (Registrar).

I. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 12:06 by Bob McPherson, Chair of GPSC

II. Approval of the Minutes

- Minutes of May 1, 2007 meeting were approved as written

III. Announcements/Information

- Libby Barlow, PeopleSoft
  - The transition to PeopleSoft has experienced some glitches, but is basically going well. Faculty will be able to get accurate grade sheets and rosters that are up-to-date. Questions regarding specific PeopleSoft functionalities were also answered.

- IV. Reports by Representatives to Academic Governance Committees
  - Representative to Research Council, Laura Frishman
    - No Report
  
- V. Reports on Related University Committees
  - Representative to Information Technology and Computing Committee, Paul Raffoul
    - No Report
  - Representative to Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Bob McPherson
    - Dr. Rudley met with the executive committee to review the University's plans for new buildings and new projects.
  - Representative to the Teaching Excellence Committee, Michael Nikolaou
    - No Report
  
- VI. Report by Dean of Graduate & Professional Studies, Marco J. Mariotto
  - The Provost is interested in increasing the percentage of graduate/professional students at UH. The relative mix of students has changed dramatically over the last 15 years as the % of undergraduate students has increased from @ 67% to more than 76%. Increasing the numbers of graduate/professional students will have implications for recruiting faculty and identifying additional resources for graduate student support.
    - The actual support mechanisms for graduate/professional students are being carefully reviewed at all levels of the university. The long-standing question regarding whether Research Assistants should be direct costed on research grants is one area being examined
  - In addition, the administration is examining the possibility of increasing the numbers and size of sub-doctoral programs. A GPSC task force addressed this issue last year and a status report with recommendations has been sent to the Provost. This has implications for the work of Council over the next few years.
  - There is also interest in exploring how Post-Docs are governed. PeopleSoft will allow us to track costs and benefits related to these individuals more accurately.
  
- VII. Standing Committee Reports
  - Academic Program Evaluation Committee, Cathy Patterson
    - Pending
      - GPSC 5695 07S: Cooperative Program between Economics and the University of Kyiv
        - It was recommended that this proposal be accepted. The motion passed unanimously.
  
  - Course Evaluation and Review Committee, Roger Boltz
    - New:
      - GPSC 5696 07F: PHAR 5403: Pharmacology II
      - GPSC 5697 07F: PHAR 5302: Medicinal Chemistry I

- GPSC 5698 07F: PHAR 5203: Medicinal Chemistry II
  - GPSC 5701 07F: PHAR 5402: Pharmacology I
    - The request was made that the listing of CBM forms be included in an addendum to the agenda. This will be done beginning with the October agenda.
- Graduate Admissions & Student Affairs Committee, Paul Raffoul
  - Pending:
    - GPSC 5684 06F: Request that Council establish a Faculty Mentoring Award for Grad/Prof students
      - No Report
  - New:
    - GPSC 5700 07F: Policy Regarding the Financial Aid Status of Students on COOP
      - No Report
- Graduate Policies Committee, Shirley Ezell
  - New
    - GPSC 5699 07F: Proposed Revision to the Policy on Graduate Certificate Programs
      - No report

VIII. Unfinished Business

IX. New Business

X. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:54.