

UNCORRECTED

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

The University of Alabama

September 27, 2016

The regular meeting of the Graduate Council was held at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 27, 2016 in 110 AIME Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Daniel Avery, Dr. Joy Burnham, Dr. Julia Cherry
Dr. Alexandra Cook, Dr. Mary Alice “Lisa” Davis,
Dr. William Evans, Dr. Andrew Graettinger,
Dr. Ann Graves,, Dr. Burcu Keskin, Dr. Linda Knol,
Dr. Amy Lang, Dr. Linda Knol, Dr. Amy Lang
Professor Sarah Marshall, Dr. Douglas McKnight
Dr. Sharif Melouk, Dr. Angelia Paschal, Dr. John Petrovic
Dr. Albert Pionke, Dr. Daniel Riches, Dr. Brenda Smith (for
Laura Hopson), Dr. Debra Whisenant, Dr. Vivian Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Thomas Baker, Dr. Ibrahim Çemen, Dr. Margaret Kim
Dr. Jeff Martin, Dr. Mary Meares, Dr. Karen Salekin
Dr. Sara Tomek, Dr. Dawn Williams

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: Dr. Janie Hubbard
Dr. Donald Gilstrap

GRADUATE SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Dr. Susan Carvalho, Dean
Dr. Andrew Goodliffe, Assistant Dean
Ms. Beth Yarbrough, Registrar
Mr. Eric Harris, Assistant Registrar

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE(S): Ms. Shelby Brooks
Ms. Sharniece Holland
Ms. Phylisicia Carter

GUEST(S): UA President Stuart Bell
Dr. James Leonard

President Bell addressed the Graduate Council and briefly shared his vision for the coming years including challenges and goals. He explained the strategic plan that consists of four pillars; 1) Academic Aspirations (Graduate and Undergraduate), 2) Research, Discovery, Creative Activities, 3) Inclusiveness and 4) Work-Life Balance and Recruitment/Retention of outstanding faculty and staff.

Dean Susan Carvalho welcomed everyone and introductions were made to the council.

I. Approval of Minutes of the April 26, 2016 meeting

Dean Carvalho asked if there were corrections or changes to the April 26, 2016 minutes. No changes were requested. Minutes approved.

Dean Carvalho gave an overview of the function of Graduate School and shared the ways in which the graduate education goals of the strategic plan will be achieved. This includes a focus on Growth, Quality (Competitiveness), Inclusivity, and Sustainability. She introduced five initiatives to be addressed at the future Graduate Council meetings. They include: International Recruitment, National Name Exchange, Noel Levitz Retreat (consulting group), and a “best practices” page for departmental websites across campus, Research Clusters to aide in recruitment efforts.

Secondly, Dean Carvalho discussed the upcoming use of “dashboards” for each department, and she distributed a sample. Including data from applications to employment, these can be tailored and will provide a thorough picture via data collection, for the benefit of every department.

II. Reports from Graduate Council Committees

A. Admission and Recruitment Committee (Dr. Andrew Graettinger, Chair)

Dr. Graettinger explained the proposal to modify admission test score requirements.

Proposed Catalog Wording – this includes the following changes: 1) removal of the

mention of the old GRE test scoring scheme; 2) removal of the recommendation that an admission test score be provided for all Graduate Council Fellowship nominations; and 3) removal of the admission test score requirement if the applicant has a Master's degree or five years of professional experience in the field. Motion to approve the proposal was offered and seconded. All members present approved.

B. Fellowship & Scholarship Committee (Dr. Julia Cherry, Chair)

Dr. Cherry gave a brief summary of nomination rounds; offers and acceptances, explained that the committee is looking for ways in which to make the GCF more competitive. She also offered a proposal to decrease minimum enrollment for GCF awardees (.5 assistantships), from 12 hours to 9 hours, which will allow for more flexibility. Data will be available at the end of 2016-17 academic year, for tracking scholarly output related to these awards. Motion to approve the proposal was offered and seconded. All members present approved.

C. Teaching, Research and Service Award Committee (Dr. Burcu Keskin, Chair)

No committee reports. Dr. Keskin gave a brief description of each award. Everyone's help is requested in promoting the nomination process for the various Outstanding Graduate Student Awards.

D. Program and Degree Committee with Research and New Programs Committee (Dr. Daniel Riches, Chair)

Dr. Riches gave an overview of two proposals; 1) Certificate in International and Comparative Law and 2) Certificate in Public Interest Law. Both certificates are intended to help law students in future endeavors in either international, foreign or comparative law or public interest once admitted to the practice of law. Motion to approve both proposals

was offered and seconded. All members present approved.

III. Reports from the Dean's Office and Academic Affairs

A. Associate Dean Cathy Pagani (report given by Andrew Goodliffe)

Discussed were a few items; 1) Spring 2017 commencement will consist of four ceremonies. Task force is exploring other options for future years. Faculty Marshals are needed, 2) a new online system is now up and running for submitting new programs, 3) Board of Trustees approved NISPs including MS Degree in Rural Community Health in HES, MS Degree in Consumer Sciences in HES, MS Degree Human Nutrition in HES, MS Degree in Public Health in HES, and MS Degree in Sport Business Management in HES, 4) ACHE approved items; Nurse Practitioner concentrations in Mental Health and Nurse Administration, and Primary Care for Rural Populations.

B. Assistant Dean Andrew Goodliffe

Dr. Goodliffe discussed briefly three items; 1) Graduate Council Fellowship. We encourage departments to take part in the Fellowship Enhancement Partnership (FEP) program; 2) Reminder that we now have a premier GCF - David Francko fellowship - \$25k for up to 5 years, can include FEP for up to 2 years (\$33k); and 3) Chairs and directors were sent an email about recruitment trips. We want to enhance these by engaging alumni and colleagues at these universities, so please provide us with names.

IV. Reports from Standing University Committees

A. Faculty Senate

Janie Hubbard, representative from Faculty Senate gave an overview of their website that provides information from 1993 to the present. Multiple task force reports are available for viewing. For questions, please contact Faculty Senate through the website.

B. Graduate Student Association

Ms. Shelby Brooks informed the council of various endeavors; Town Hall Mondays, mutual support with the Graduate School (Outstanding Graduate Student Award), and Tapping of the Mound in April. GSA Task Force is striving to adopt a better organizational structure. Ms. Brooks hopes to present additional information at the February 28 Graduate Council Meeting.

V. Old Business

There was no old business.

VI. New Business

Dr. Graettinger asked about upcoming dates for the Three Minute Thesis competition.

There being no further business, Dean Carvalho adjourned the meeting at 4:28 p.m.