

UNCORRECTED

MINUTES OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL

The University of Alabama

February 28, 2017

The regular meeting of the Graduate Council was held at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 28, 2017 in 110 AIME Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Thomas Baker
Dr. Joy Burnham
Dr. Ibrahim Çemen
Dr. Julia Cherry
Dr. Alexandra Cook
Dr. Mary Alice “Lisa” Davis
Dr. William Evans
Dr. Andrew Graettinger
Dr. Ann Graves (Dr. Alice March)
Dr. Laura Hopson
Dr. Burcu Keskin
Dr. Linda Knol
Dr. Amy Lang
Dr. Linda Knol
Dr. Amy Lang
Dr. Douglas McKnight
Dr. Mary Meares
Dr. Sharif Melouk
Dr. Angelia Paschal
Dr. John Petrovic
Dr. Albert Pionke
Dr. Daniel Riches
Dr. Karen Salekin
Dr. Sara Tomek
Dr. Vivian Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Daniel Avery
Dr. Seongsin Kim
Professor Sarah Marshall
Dr. Jeffrey Martin
Dr. Debra Whisenant
Dr. Dawn Williams

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

GRADUATE SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Dr. Cathy Pagani, Associate 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): Ms. Jan Jones

I. Approval of Minutes of the November 17, 2016 meeting

After a few corrections were requested, Dean Carvalho motioned that the November 17, 2016 minutes be approved.

II. Reports from Graduate Council Committees

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

The following five proposals were discussed and voted on (all passed)

- i. The use of unofficial transcripts for graduate admissions purposes.
- ii. University Scholars program to be renamed Accelerated Master's Program.
- iii. Math AMP approval; remove GRE as part of the admissions requirement, but increase the minimum GPA to 3.75.
- iv. Mechanical Engineering AMP approval; increase credits allowed under AMP to be increased from 6 to 9. Adding the PhD program as a direct admit under new AMP program.
- v. SPE – Multiple Abilities Program (MAP) proposal for a GRE waiver for students

that have completed internship with faculty at UG level.

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

Dr. Andy Goodliffe – speaking on the behalf of Dr. Cherry – gave two updates.

- i. An update on current numbers of nominations, offers, and accepts for Round I and II of the Graduate Council Fellowship nominating process.
- ii. Secondly, it was announced that the nominating process for the National Alumni Scholarship will be more streamlined much like the GCF award process.

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

Dr. Burcu Keskin gave a brief update on graduate student awards.

- i. The committee is looking at ways to incorporate graduate students not currently represented. Other categories may be introduced that would bring in students from Nursing, Social Work and others departments. Dr. Keskin will present a plan in either April or in the fall of 2017.

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

Dr. Daniel Riches put forth five individual proposals. All passed (see attachments).

- i. First a new concentration in Nurse Education in INLE to allow for future nurses to receive training in order to be able to teach other future nurses.
- ii. Secondly, a pair of proposals from Capstone College of Nursing for 1) clinical nurse leader and 2) manager, both within MSN degree.
- iii. From Department of Marketing for a concentration in Digital and Social Media Marketing. Already existing courses can offer marketable training and also use as a recruiting tool for future students.

- iv. Lastly, a proposal to shrink three programs down to one and ensure that it is offered as a PhD option.

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

A. Dean Susan Carvalho

Dean Carvalho touched on a few of the action items being work on under the Strategic Enrollment Committee Action Plan. Among them are efforts at recruiting students in the international market, with the help of agents in countries such as India, China, and the Middle East. Popular programs for these students are the STEM fields of study and business majors.

Also, housing concerns are being addressed for both domestic and international recruits, current students.

Websites, and web pages must be attractive and stand out with easily found, important information. Any "clutter" needs to be eliminated. The Big Ten conference schools provide useful examples of some attractive websites.

Stipend levels and national data is being examined as the bar keeps rising nationwide.

In some areas of funding there is inflexibility, as in the case of fiscal year funding.

Lastly, a focus on diversity is being pursued. High school and undergraduate students from underrepresented groups can now upload their student profiles and be part of a consortium for the University of Alabama (among others) to engage with.

B. Associate Dean Cathy Pagani

The issue of doctoral time limits (time to degree) is being looked at. There may be

changes needed in our current policies, which may allow for more time be given with certain criteria, benchmarks to be met along the way. Academic departments would need to decide whether to provide additional funding should more time to degree be allowed. Dr. Pagani announced that a four-member “Doctoral Residency Taskforce” will look at these and other issues including the rationale of doctoral “residency” in the current academic setting.

IV. Reports from Standing University Committees

There were no standing committee reports.

V. Old Business

There was no old business.

VI. New Business

A. Ms. Shelby Brooks

Student representative Ms. Shelby Brooks spoke about the efforts of the Graduate Student Association to be more widely represented and have more autonomy with an increased operations budget. Growth is needed across five areas: Tech, Housing, Social Networking, Professional Development, and Health. More work to be done concerning how best to address the several needs. Any thoughts from the council are appreciated. A vote is forthcoming in the April GC meeting as to whether or not to endorse these efforts.

There being no further business, Dean Carvalho adjourned the meeting at 4:26 p.m.