

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

August 23, 2018 Minutes

Members present: Aydeniz, M., (Chair), Patterson, D., (Chair-Elect), Morrow, J. (Past-Chair), Abedi, R., Alcocer, R., Alshibli, K., Anderson, K., Bemis, D., Black, C., Bonom, J., Broemmell, A., Brown, J., Dzikus, L., Ekici, K., Han, L., Meschke, L., Fleming-May, R., Fouts, H., Herron, F., Jackson, R., Lang, M., Larson, J., Latham, J., Marshall, S., Martinez, M., McConville, B., Mohsin, M., Moir-McClean, T., Moyer, D., Peterson, G., Ryan, J., Schriver R., Stehle, M., Sulyok, C., Wang, H., Wolitz, D.

Ex-Officio members present: Albrecht, M., Ambroziak, K., Behn, B., Bradberry, S., Fairbrother, J., Kilpatrick, Y., Mercer, H., Moore, T., Palenchar, M., Sullivan, M., Thompson, D., Cox, C.

1. Call to Order and Welcome (Mehmet Aydeniz)

The Graduate Council meeting was called to order by Chair, Mehmet Aydeniz on Thursday, August 23, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. in the Friesen Black Cultural Center, Multipurpose Room.

- Dr. Aydeniz welcomed members and new members to the first meeting of the 2018-19 Graduate Council.
- I would like the committee chairs to introduce themselves and give a brief description of the committee.
 - Academic Policy Committee: Maria Stehle
 - We review the policy and procedures in the Graduate Catalog.
 - Appeals Committee: David Patterson
 - We meet on an ad hoc basis. At this time, we have two appeals that will be coming forward.
 - Curriculum Committee: Sibyl Marshall
 - We review curriculum and program proposals that are submitted from your respective units.
 - Student/Faculty Research Awards: Dixie Thompson
 - Good news: we have money again this year to offer these awards. This has been very popular and it gives students the opportunity to compete for research dollars.
 - Graduate Student Senate: Cara Sulyok
 - We had the New Graduate Student Orientation last week – with over 400 in attendance.
 - Our first social was held last week at Barleys with record-breaking attendance.
 - Our aim is to have a graduate student from each department on the Senate this year to have a wide representation of students.
- I would also like us to go around the room and introduce ourselves and tell what department we are from.

2. Minutes of the Preceding Meeting

The Graduate Council Minutes of the April 26, 2018 meeting were approved electronically on May 17, 2018.

- Dr. Aydeniz explained the electronic review and approval process for the Graduate Council Minutes.
 - Within a week of the Graduate Council Meeting, the Minutes are sent electronically to all on the Graduate Council to read and review. Any edits/revisions should be sent to Catherine Cox within that review week. Any edits/revisions received will be noted. The Minutes will be sent again the next week to only the voting members, along with the voting link. The voting members will have one week to review and submit their vote of 1) approve, 2) not approved, or 3) abstain. When the votes are received, Catherine will notify the Graduate Council Chair and Dean Thompson of the results and that they can move forward to the Senate Executive Committee. This new procedure allows the Minutes to move forward expeditiously, first to Faculty Senate for approval and then to the Board of Trustees for approval.

3. Administrative Reports and Announcements:Deans Update: (Dixie Thompson)

We have had a busy summer in the Graduate School. I want to give you an update.

- Certified 1304 graduate degrees, 126 graduate certificates
- Completed 2 reviews of academic standing
- Hired a new business manager and accounting specialist
- Assisted multiple departments with their recruitment initiatives
- Finalized admissions for the fall 2018 class of students
- Published the AY 2018-19 Graduate Catalog – with major revisions to the Policy section
- Worked with departments to create the 2019 applications
- Held 3 large events – Graduate Hooding, New Student Orientation, New GTA Orientation
- Worked with Associate Deans to begin discussions for next year's 3MT process
- Began our meetings with this year's GSS leadership
- Created forms for PhD committees and Non-PhD Doctoral committees
- Worked with colleges to award over \$4M in fellowships
- Working with departments to award approximately \$500K in tuition support to students with external fellowships
- Working with OIT to roll out the Graduate Blueprint

For the coming year

- We have approximately \$100K for the Student/Faculty Research Awards – we'll be discussing with the group today a timeline for the announcements
- The Chancellor has set aside \$1M in support for graduate stipends. I am working with the Provost and Deans on the rollout of those funds
- Working on ways to develop more consistent messaging related to graduate education at UT
- Hopeful of having carryover money to put towards recruitment efforts for the coming year
- 2 Policy changes
 - Accreditation standards for admissions
 - Probation hours
- Formatting project for all the graduate programs listed in the Graduate Catalog

Graduate Council Chair (Mehmet Aydeniz)

- The new enterprise web survey tool QuestionPro went live yesterday, August 22nd. Over the next year, OIT will be migrating from Qualtrics to QuestionPro. OIT will be offering webinars via Zoom, as well as face-to-face workshops. You can go to the OIT website and register for online training courses.
- This year we want to work on Procedures Manuals for the Graduate Council and the Graduate Council Committees.
- The meeting is adjourned. Members will now breakout and meet with the committee you are assigned to.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Cox
Graduate Council Liaison