



## Minutes of the Graduate Board

*Thursday, March 25, 2010*

**Executive Conference Room  
Student Faculty Center  
Health Sciences Center Campus  
2:30 – 4:30 p.m.**

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### **Members Present:**

William Aaronson, Elizabeth Bolman, Daniel J. Canney, Joseph DuCette, Thomas Gould, Barbara Hoffman, Deborah Howe, Daniel Kern, James Korsh, Jagannathan Krishnan, Dan A. Liebermann, Roberta Newton, Jeffrey Rush

### **Ex-Officio Member:**

Richard M. Englert, Interim Dean, Graduate School  
Zebulon Kendrick, Associate Dean, Graduate School

### **Graduate School Staff:**

Cheryl Jackson, Assistant to the Dean  
Kathryn Petrich-LaFevre, Director of Graduate Information  
Margaret M. Pippet, Assistant Dean

### **Approval of the Minutes:**

Thomas Gould motioned to approve the minutes of January 21, 2010. William Aaronson seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes was unanimously passed.

### **Business:**

The first order of business regarded the University's grading system. The Interim Dean explained that as the University consolidates its various computer systems into the single Banner system, consistency has become an issue. While a "D-" is a passing grade for undergraduates, a "C-" is the lowest grade that can be used to fulfill a graduate requirement. He noted that this issue will be brought before the Policy Committee for further review.

The next item on the agenda was fellowships. The Graduate Board was presented with a summary of the fellowship awards, which included a list of the undergraduate institutions attended by the fellowship awardees and a breakdown of their GRE and GMAT scores and UGPAs by discipline. A preliminary fellowship calendar for the 2010-2011 academic year was also distributed. Several members voiced concerns about setting Temple's timetable ahead. While it is desired because many good candidates accept early offers from other schools, an accelerated timetable may negatively impact some schools and colleges at Temple. Princeton, for example, has set its fellowship deadline for September 30. At Temple, the Psychology Department has moved its deadline to December 1, and it is anticipated that Fox School of Business and Management may follow suit. Concerns about credentialing slowing the fellowship process were also raised.

The Interim Dean then returned to the major discussion item from earlier in the Fall: Policy 02.20.01 – Structure of the Graduate School. He presented the Board with a memorandum that

summarized the three substantive changes made in the document in light of those earlier discussions:

- The makeup of the Graduate Council, which itself would undergo a name change from “Graduate Board,” would be altered to exclude the three student representatives.
- Letters of admission would no longer be signed by the Dean of the Graduate School, but by the Dean of the respective schools and colleges.
- The method of amending the Policy document would change so that it is no longer reviewed by the Board of Trustees but by the President – and only 3/5 as opposed to 2/3 of Graduate Faculty need approve.

*Board Response:*

Concern was raised that the Operational Guidelines document conflicts with the Policy statement. Issue was taken with the first item on the guidelines document: Membership on the Graduate Faculty. It was asked that the definition of Graduate Faculty listed therein be reconsidered. While a change in language from “must” to “normally should” was offered, one member suggested that the issue was deeper than simply massaging a few words. Another recommended that the Board concern itself first with the actual policy and later with the Operational Guidelines. Finally, a third Board member expressed a need to link the Operational Guidelines document to the Policy document with a statement of “implementation” in the latter. He suggested it effectively state that “a set of operational guidelines is established by the Provost in consultation with the Graduate Council for the purposes of executing the policy.”

The Interim Dean suggested the next steps:

1. The Graduate Board approve the revised Policy document.
2. The Deans of the schools and colleges be alerted of the Graduate Board’s approval.
3. A meeting of the Graduate Faculty be called for review of the Policy document and the state of graduate education.

Then:

4. The definition of “Graduate Faculty” would be revisited.
5. The programs under the purview of the Graduate School would be determined.

The Interim Dean noted that he would have a follow-up discussion with the Provost and then send the revised document for review to the Graduate Board. The Associate Dean proposed that Policy 02.20.01 be forwarded electronically to the Graduate Board for review and vote within two days’ time and that, upon approval, a meeting with the Graduate Faculty be set for April 28, 2010. Deborah Howe motioned for approval; Dan Liebermann seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Finally, in new business, an increase in the number of applications for the 2010-2011 academic year was reported. The D.P.T. program, which now begins in the summer, greatly increased the number of summer applications, which resulted in the overall increase. Discussion also focused on the new adjunct policy, which is intended to protect students from being exploited. Graduate students have been hired in the past as adjuncts, rather than teaching assistants, because they come at a reduced cost since tuition and health insurance do not need to be provided. One Board member expressed concern that the Faculty Senate was not consulted. Another took issue with the fact that adjuncts can only teach one course at Temple per semester, particularly in the summer when two sessions are

offered. She asked if an exception could be granted – or if a supervisor could make the determination whether the adjunct could handle more than one course. A third asked about hiring a doctoral student from another institution as an adjunct. Still another noted that adjunct positions are offered to her school’s doctoral students because a limited number of teaching assistantships is available.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned @ 4:00 p.m.

The next Graduate Board meeting will be held on Main Campus, 3B Conwell Hall, on Wednesday, April 21, 2010, @ 2:30 p.m.