



Minutes of the Graduate Board

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

3B Conwell Hall, Main Campus

2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Daniel J. Canney, Dimitrios Diamantaras, Jay Fagan, Edward Flanagan, Thomas Gould, Marcia Hall, William Hitchcock, Barbara Hoffman, Luke Kahlich, James Korsh, Nicholas Kripal, Dan A. Liebermann, Wes Roehl, Jeff Rush, Michael Sachs, Deborah Sheldon, Dennis Silage, Pablo Vila

Ex-Officio Member:

Zebulon Kendrick, Associate Dean, Graduate School

Graduate School Staff:

Cheryl Jackson, Assistant to the Dean
Kathryn Petrich-LaFevre, Director of Graduate Information
Michael Toner, Research Associate

Guests:

Richard M. Englert, Deputy Provost

Approval of the Minutes:

Edward Flanagan motioned to approve the minutes of October 23, 2008. Pablo Vila seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes was unanimously passed.

Business:

The Associate Dean opened the meeting by explaining that the Dean was in Chicago for the annual convention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. He extended the Dean's regrets.

The first order of business was a discussion of matriculation/enrollment fees. With the advent of Banner and the ERP system, business practices must now be uniform. A graduate matriculation fee is currently charged and ranges from \$10 to \$1,000, depending on the program. A lack of uniformity exists, however, in how these fees are used upon receipt. In the ensuing discussion, support was offered to charge a nonrefundable fee, provided the funds are then applied to the student's tuition. If a student later chooses not to enroll, it was recommended that the fee be earmarked for the affected school/college. The concern was raised that programs not accept more students than seats available. A \$100 minimum was suggested. It was generally agreed that charging students two fees, i.e., a matriculation fee and an enrollment fee, is illogical.

Next, Dick Englert was introduced as the Interim Dean of the Graduate School, starting January 5, 2009. He briefly described his 30 years' experience with the University, which has included a variety of administrative roles. He noted that with the Dean leaving the Graduate School to return to his research, the time is right to assess graduate education at Temple and restructure the Graduate School. External consultants led by Bob Zemsky from the University of Pennsylvania are being

brought in to conduct a three-month review during the Spring semester. Dr. Englert touched on five key concerns with the restructuring:

- What structure should be utilized administratively: a central Graduate School or distribution of responsibility to the schools and colleges or even more locally to the departments?
- How can quality control best be maintained?
- How should resources, such as assistantships, be distributed to optimally support graduate students?
- How best to continue developing new programs?
- Which is more logical: maintaining the master's–doctoral track or introducing terminal or professional master's degree programs?

Dr. Englert noted that while problems of the past will be considered, the main task is to look ahead to the potential of graduate education, including interdisciplinary study and online learning. He stated that, at present, the Graduate School will proceed as normal.

Dissertation and project completion awards constituted the final order of business. The process was electronic and ran relatively smoothly; thus, it is intended that the fellowship competition will be handled similarly. Three project completion awards, including one to Tyler and two to the School of Communications and Theater, were granted. Five dissertation completion awards were also granted.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned @ 3:40 p.m.

The next Graduate Board meeting will be held on Main Campus, 3B Conwell Hall, on Thursday, January 22, 2009, @ 2:30 p.m.