



Minutes of the Graduate Board

Wednesday, September 21, 2011

3B Conwell Hall, Main Campus

2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Jasim Albandar, Daniel Funk, Petra Goedde, Kathryn Hirsh-Pasek, Richard H. Immerman, James Korsh, Jagannathan Krishnan, Lynn Mandarano, Mary Myers, Paul Pavlou, Vallorie Peridier, Peter S. Riseborough, Deborah Sheldon, Justin Yuan Shi, Scott Sieburth, Paul Swann

Ex-Officio Member:

Kenneth J. Blank, Senior Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Education
Zebulon Kendrick, Vice Provost, Graduate School

Graduate School Staff:

Cheryl Jackson, Administrative Coordinator
Kathryn Petrich-LaFevre, Director of Graduate Information
Michael Toner, Associate Director for Graduate Enrollment and Data Management

Approval of the Minutes:

Kathryn Hirsh-Pasek motioned to approve the minutes of April 20, 2011. Petra Goedde seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes was unanimously passed.

Business:

The Vice Provost opened the meeting by welcoming new members of the Graduate Board. He turned the Graduate Board's attention to the Committee Assignment sheet included in the meeting handouts. He advised the members of the Appeals Committee that one appeal is still active from the past academic year and requires attention. The Policy Committee was presented with three challenges:

1. Evaluation of the Strategic Plan for the Graduate School, which was drafted in March 2008.
2. Review of the proposed tuition deposit fee of \$200 for new matriculating students. Currently, the fee ranges from \$10 to \$1,000. It is designed to hold an individual's seat in the incoming cohort and is applied to tuition. If the student does not enroll, however, the monies are credited to the school/college after it is first determined whether the student deferred enrollment to the next semester's intake.
3. Design of a policy for bringing professional science master's degree programs online at Temple as a revenue-generating mechanism. These programs are created for individuals in industry who want to complete the degree and move on with the ultimate goal of getting a job or securing a raise. The classes would be taught onsite at an industry location. Because the programs are market driven and often have a short lifespan, they need to be fast-tracked to bring them online; they cannot go through all traditional levels of review. The Senior Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Education cautioned that quality cannot be sacrificed when designing these fast-tracked programs.

As for the Program Committee, the Vice Provost noted that its members will be busy as a result of the numerous new programs and revisions to established programs that are anticipated in the coming year. At present, two proposals have been submitted and three others are pending.

The Graduate Board's attention was directed to the assignment sheets and timeline for the Fellowship Committee and its various subcommittees. The Vice Provost noted that all Board members are involved in decision making for fellowship offers.

An update on the 2011-2012 academic year was presented. In brief, the 2011-2012 Fellowship budget was reduced by \$200,000, and the tuition budget did not increase even though tuition costs increased for 2011-2012. As a result, nearly two-thirds of the \$3 million available for tuition scholarships and waivers (i.e., full-overhead tuition support for Research Assistants) for 2011-2012 was charged in September, leaving only about \$1 million for tuition support for Spring 2012. The Vice Provost noted that seven more Fellowship students are being supported this academic year than last. In addition, the Graduate School provides support of nearly \$400,000 to one statistical consultant, two CHAT Fellows, five Schmieder Fellows, six Teaching Assistants in the Writing Center, and eleven Graduate Externs in the Math and Science Resource Center. The Vice Provost further noted that the Graduate School is providing tuition support for 14 Fulbright Scholars, two more than last year, with no shared costs for the \$300,000 tuition burden. Of those 14 students, only five are in terminal degree programs. The question of whether the number of Fulbright Scholars accepted at Temple should be limited was raised. It was pointed out that tuition costs have been cut by restricting funding to a student's required course of study. It was further suggested that time to degree offers another way to trim tuition costs. If a student is taking too long to complete the degree, tuition support could be withdrawn.

In old business, it was asked if the Chapman report on graduate education at Temple, including legacy reports, faculty teaching loads, and the utilization of Teaching Assistantships, was ready for review. The Vice Provost advised that when it is available, the Graduate Board can meet to review and discuss the report, which will not be publicly disseminated. He noted that questions were forwarded to the Deans and their staff, who are to reply by September 23. It was cautioned that in order to implement any suggested changes in the report in Fall 2012, decisions will need to be made this semester.

In new business, the Vice Provost announced that ETS would be making a presentation on the revised GRE® General Test on Wednesday, October 5, 2011, in Kiva Auditorium at 2:30 p.m. He noted that the new test was offered as of August 1 and those scores would start being released as of November 1. The Vice Provost also addressed the hiring of Postdoctoral Fellows and Visiting Research Scholars, which is handled through the Graduate School. These individuals come to Temple to engage in research, not to earn a degree. He noted that international candidates must arrive seven to ten days before their start date to attend orientation so their paperwork to obtain a social security number can be processed.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned @ 3:35 p.m.

The next Graduate Board meeting will be held on the Health Sciences Center Campus, in the Executive Conference Room on the 4th floor of the Student Faculty Center, on Wednesday, October 19, 2011, @ 2:30 p.m.