



Minutes of the Graduate Board

Thursday, February 20, 2014

3B Conwell Hall, Main Campus

2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Jasim Albandar, Elizabeth Bolman, Jeffrey Draine, Kathryn Hirsh-Pasek, Parsaoran Hutapea, Cheryl Hyde, Jagannathan Krishnan, Rita Krueger, George Myer, Paul A. Pavlou, Michael Ryan, Michael Sachs, Lawrence Venuti, Douglas Wager, Kimberly Williams

Ex-Officio Member:

Zebulon Kendrick, Vice Provost, Graduate Education

Graduate School Staff:

Cheryl Jackson, Administrative Coordinator

Kathryn Petrich, Director of Graduate Communications

Michael Toner, Associate Director for Graduate Enrollment and Data Management

Approval of the Minutes:

Jasim Albandar motioned to approve the minutes of January 15, 2014. Lawrence Venuti seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes was unanimously passed.

Business:

The first order of business was the redesign of the M.B.A. The Vice Provost began by noting that a tracking/review system has been instituted for new programs and program changes that allows the information to be shared with the entire University. It was observed that the proposed M.B.A. programming offers a good assessment of market need and is placement oriented. A key change is that some 3-credit courses will now be two 1.5-credit courses. Paul Pavlou motioned that the redesign of the M.B.A. be endorsed by the Graduate Board. Cheryl Hyde seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Next on the agenda was graduate enrollment for Spring 2014. In contrast to the two previous Spring semesters, enrollment is up for master's programs. The majority of the new students are derived from two schools/colleges: Fox School of Business and Management, and the College of Engineering. It was asked why the University is striving to attract 5,000 master's students in the next few years. The response was that revenue can best be generated at the master's level and this is necessary because:

- State appropriations may again decrease.
- The student pool for undergraduates is decreasing.
- Revenue is needed to support doctoral education.

Discussion then turned to the status of applications. The Vice Provost called for decisions to be made on applications that are complete – and on those that are incomplete, if a decision can be made based on the available information. He pointed out that in many cases the GPA is not being recorded in Banner and this needs to be corrected. He advised that the Provost has requested that the Graduate School follow up on incomplete applications to ensure that decisions are made.

The next item on the agenda was fellowships. The Vice Provost plans to offer 50 awards, unless told differently at the budget meeting scheduled for February 25. Noting that diversity is one of President Theobald's six commitments, Dr. Kendrick pointed out that approximately 25% of our doctoral students are international and that Temple ranks in the top 20 institutions for conferring doctorates on African American graduates. To advance our diversity efforts, he proposed to support additional students with one year of funding each when the monies are not needed to cover the standard Year 1/Year 4 funding stream; the student's school/college would have responsibility for covering the other three years.

In old business, it was asked if updates can be made to the Graduate Bulletin now, prior to the changeover to CourseLeaf. It was recommended that updates should, in fact, be made now as all changes made in Contribute are being tracked and will be migrated to CourseLeaf before it is opened for editing.

In new business, the electronic submission of support materials was discussed. Some using Interfolio fear that the service fee for its use may keep some prospective students from applying. It was suggested that if Ellucian is unable to meet our need for electronic transmission of application materials, another vendor should be found.

Finally, it was announced that Fred Leebron will offer two sessions at Tyler School of Art to discuss low-residency M.F.A. programs. Low-residency graduate programs are those that are completed mostly online, with a week or two spent on campus in the summer.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned @ 3:30 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, March 19, 2014, @ 2:30 p.m.