



## Minutes of the Graduate Board

*Thursday, September 19, 2013*

3B Conwell Hall, Main Campus

2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

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### **Members Present:**

Jasim Albandar, Elizabeth Bolman, John Campbell, Deborah Confredo, Jeffrey Draine, Joseph DuCette, Daniel Funk, Sally Harrison, Kathryn Hirsh-Pasek, Parsaoran Hutapea, Cheryl Hyde, Jagannathan Krishnan, Rita Krueger, Lynn Mandarano, Irina Mitrea, George Myer, Mary Myers, Paul A. Pavlou, Vallorie J. Peridier, Michael Ryan, Michael Sachs, Scott Sieburth, 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 Information  
Michael Toner, Associate Director for Graduate Enrollment and Data Management

### **Guest:**

Martin Lorenz, Department of Mathematics, College of Science and Technology

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

Michael Sachs motioned to approve the minutes of April 17, 2013. Vallorie Peridier seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes was unanimously passed.

### **Business:**

The Vice Provost began with introductions all around, welcoming new members. He then explained that a faculty committee will begin looking at program proposals in Spring 2014. The committee will include Peter Jones, Senior Vice Provost, Undergraduate Studies; Zebulon Kendrick, Vice Provost, Graduate Education; Jodi Levine Laufgraben, Vice Provost, Academic Programs, Assessment, and Institutional Research; and five at-large faculty, with each school/college limited to one seat in two-year rotations.

Martin Lorenz was then called on to provide information about the restructuring of the master's degree in Mathematics. The M.A. is to be renamed as an M.S. and redesigned with more flexibility for incoming students in an effort to increase the success rate. The concentrations for the M.S. are mathematics, as an umbrella, and applied and computational mathematics. All courses are in place, and the number of credits remains the same. The proposal will be presented to the Program Committee before the Graduate Board is asked to vote on it.

The next order of business was the call to increase enrollment in master's degree programs by 2,000 students in the next five years, with half that number being international students. The current ratio of doctoral to master's students is insufficient, and a goal of 4 master's:1 doctoral is desired. It was noted that over a three-year period, the number of doctoral students increased 0.8%, while the overall number of master's students increased 1.7% in the same period. Data show, however, that

enrollment in master's degree programs declined between 19% and 42% in some schools and colleges during the last two years. The Vice Provost explained that a number of opportunities are being targeted to increase master's enrollment. These include:

- Joint master's programs across schools/colleges, such as the new M.S. in Engineering Management
- Executive master's programs to meet workforce demands
- Professional Science Master's programs to meet workforce demands
- Summer M.F.A. and other low residency master's programs under the new calendar scheme
- Accelerated baccalaureate/master's programs
- 3+2 International programs
- Emerging programs, such as a Master of Public Administration/Affairs (M.P.A.)

*Board Response:*

Questions were raised about cross-disciplinary advising for joint master's programs. Suggestions were also numerous, including offering a 10% tuition scholarship to Temple alumni through the Alumni Association for pursuing a master's degree; instituting an early admission deadline; making electronic submission of recommendations and transcripts available for all programs; and ensuring that admissions committees meet early and often to make timely decisions on applications. It was also suggested that the master's degree be thought of as a mode of advancement, not job change.

The Vice Provost turned to the next item on the agenda, announcing that Provost Hai-Lung Dai has formed a task force to consider:

- Developing a plagiarism training program, preferably online, for all faculty.
- Extending the plagiarism program for students.
- Requiring all freshmen to take a seminar course on plagiarism in writing.
- Developing an ethics course in the Gen Ed program.
- Establishing an honor code for students.

With no old business, discussion turned to new business. The Vice Provost noted that the deadlines published for fellowships and grants are firm. Spring 2014 completion grants will include a \$10,000 stipend and one credit of tuition. Questions were also raised about maintaining the quality of graduate education at Temple while seeking to generate revenue. Concerns were expressed that tension could result between the creation of interdisciplinary programs and the new budget model.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned @ 4:15 p.m.

The next Graduate Board meeting will be held on the Health Sciences Center Campus, in the Executive Conference Room on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Student Faculty Center, on Wednesday, October 16, 2013, @ 2:30 p.m.