

**Minutes**  
Graduate Council  
January 8, 2009

**Members Present:** Neslihan Alp, Hinsdale Bernard, Tom Bugghey, Nicholas Boer, David Edwards, Ahmed Eltom, John Freeman, Kristi Gibbs, Diane Halstead, Gale Iles, Brian O’Leary, Mike Owens, Vicki Petzko, Cathie Smith, Chris Smith, Joyce Smith, Li Yang

**Members Absent:** Boris Belinskiy, Roger Briley, Monte Coulter, George Helton, Joey Shaw, Greg Thibadoux

**Ex-officio Members Present:** Stephanie Bellar, Joe Dumas, Yvonne Kilpatrick, Theresa Liedtka

**Ex-officio Members Absent:** Rhett Smith

**Guests Present:** Elizabeth Bell, Linda Orth, Randy Walker

**Summary of Actions**

1. 09-0004G MPA , Addition of a Concentration in Local Government Management to the Master of Public Administration Degree Program; Passed, 17-0-0
2. 09-0006G GSD, MED in School Leadership revisions to meet new state standards; passed, 17-0-0
3. 09-0005G GSD, Modification to Reading Specialist; passed, 17-0-0
4. 09-0011G ESC, Deactivate ESC 533 and new course proposal, Environmental and Ecological Genetics; passed, 17-0-0
5. 09-0012AG Anthropology, New course, ANTH 510 Medicine and Disease: A Cross Cultural Perspective; passed 17-0-0
6. 09-0012BG HHP, New course, HHP 555 Introduction to Epidemiologic Methods; passed 17-0-0
7. 09-0014G Physical Therapy, Deactivates Courses PHYT 503 and PHYT 513 and creates PHYT 507 Therapeutic Exercise and PHYT 521 Kinesiology and Applications of Exercise; passed 17-0-0
8. 09-0015G GSD, Deactivate EPSY 512, Learning and Education and create EPSY 565, Examination and Implementation of School Counseling Principles; passed, 17-0-0

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The meeting was called to order at 3:17pm by Council President, Dr. Petzko who welcomed members back from the holiday break. Dr. Petzko recognized guests to the meeting, Ms. Elizabeth Bell from the MBA program and Dr. Randy Walker from the DPT program.

Minutes were held until later in the meeting for approval.

First order of business: reports from Council members who are serving on other committees related to the budget.

**Efficiency and Effectiveness Committee**

Dr. Chris Smith serves on this committee. She informed the Council that this committee was charged with examining operations and items of other academic programs. They were looking for saving mechanisms in areas related to business processes, management of the campus facility, service vendors, and so on.

### **Provost Committee for Strategic Review**

Members from the Council include, Drs. Alp, Freeman, Petzko, and Ms. Kilpatrick. Other than Dr. Petzko the members serve as official representatives of other organizations; Dr. Petzko is the sole official representative of Graduate Council on this body. The committee was charged with making recommendations about reductions related to academic affairs. Thus far, no firm public pronouncements have been made regarding where reductions may be made. The process is complicated because the equation is not equal yet. That is, suggestions are being made about cuts before we have a clear idea of the revenue stream from tuition increases. One area that may impact graduate students is the idea of lifting the cap so that each hour is paid for rather than the current practice of capping full time fees at nine credit hours. Moreover, this may change the financial structure of graduate assistantships and how fees are covered.

Faculty are encouraged to share their ideas and opinions on the system wide "UTalk" website. A campus wide website is currently under development.

Second order of business: report from the Curriculum Committee chair, Dr. Kristi Gibbs, there are eight curriculum items reported out of committee. All eight received positive votes from the committee, with a few minor suggestions on some of the proposals, which have been made for the second reading.

**MPA:** Dr. David Edwards reported the request was to establish a concentration in local government. This concentration was the result of student demand to address the perception that the program offered a strong non-profit concentration and less in the way of local government. This concentration will not require additional resources, although new classes have been developed. These new courses are offered by the current faculty and are POLS 555 Economic Development; POLS 556 Applied Public Financial Management; POLS 554 Anatomy of the City. Courses that have been taught under the special topics rubric and now will be offered under their own number are POLS 551 Local Government Management; POLS 552 Performance Measurement; POLS 553 Urban Political Economy. This change would be effective for the 2009 Graduate Catalog  
The concentration and new courses passed 17-0-0.

**School Leadership:** Dr. Vicki Petzko spoke to the changes in the school leadership program which are driven by revisions in state wide regulations. The statewide task force met well into the fall, December, thus giving programs little time to meet the other statewide due dates driven by THEC. The proposal is to deactivate EDAS 551; EDAS 552; EDAS 553; EDAS 566; EDAS 579; EDAS 580 during staging terms and to be completely deactivated by 2010-2011 and to add eight new courses which are aligned with the new state standards. The new courses are: EDAS 571 Leadership for School Improvement; EDAS 573 School Culture and Climate; EDAS 574 Curriculum Leadership; EDAS 575 Instructional Leadership and Assessment; EDAS 576 Development of Human Capital in Schools; EDAS 577 Management of the School; EDAS 581 Ethics, Advocacy and Advanced Law; EDAS 582 Practicum in School Leadership. EDUC/EDAS 513 will no longer be cross listed; it will be listed only as EDUC 513. Effective for the 2009-2010 graduate catalog, EDAS 551 will be replaced with EDAS 571 as an elective course and EDAS 566 will be replaced with EDAS 576 as an elective course.

This concentration will not require new faculty resources. The course redesign is within the capacity of the current faculty engaged in this program. There will be impact on three other programs within the graduate division of education but these changes are promulgated by state mandate. This change would be effective for the 2009 Graduate Catalog.

The concentration and new courses passed 17-0-0.

There will be additional changes to this program related to admission concerns and better alignment with the revised state policy.

#### **Modification to Reading Specialist**

Dr. John Freeman explained that the changes in the reading specialist program are a result of the changes in the school leadership program, just approved by Council. This proposal is to replace EDAS 551 with EDAS 571 effective for the 2009-2010 catalogs and replace EDAS 566 with EDAS 576 in the 2010-2011 catalogs. During the time period of summer 2009 through summer of 2010 students may have the option of taking EDAS 566 or EDAS 576 while these courses are being offered. Beginning in fall 2010, students will be limited to taking EDAS 576 for the reading specialist designation.

These course changes will not require new faculty resources.

This change would be effective for the 2009 Graduate Catalog, noting the overlap during the summer of 2010.

The course changes to the concentration passed 17-0-0.

#### **Environmental Science**

Dr. Gibbs summarized the proposal. Environmental Science seeks to deactivate ESC 533 Environmental Genetics and add ESC 535 Environmental and Ecological Genetics. This change provides a better course description and it provides for a prerequisite (instructor approval) helping to ensure that students have sufficient background to be successful in the course.

These course changes will not require new faculty resources.

The deactivation and new course passed 17-0-0.

#### **Anthropology**

Dr. Gibbs summarized the proposal. Anthropology seeks to offer a graduate level course ANTH 510 Medical Anthropology; Medicine and Disease: A cross cultural Perspective. This course was designed as a service course for students in a variety of disciplines who would be interested in health management or cross cultural analysis.

This change would be effective for the 2009 Graduate Catalog.

This course will not require new faculty resources.

The course passed 17-0-0.

#### **Health and Human Performance**

Dr. Gibbs summarized the proposal. HHP seeks to offer a new course HHP 555 Health Systems: Introduction to Epidemiologic Methods. This course was designed as a service course for students in a variety of disciplines who would be interested in a deeper understanding of health related data mining.

This change would be effective for the 2009 Graduate Catalog.

The original proposal included another course which was withdraw by Dr. Heath.

This course will not require new faculty resources.

The course passed 17-0-0.

#### **Physical Therapy**

Dr. Randy Walker spoke to this proposal. DPT seeks to deactivate two courses PHYT 503 and PHYT 513 and create two courses PHYT 507 Therapeutic Exercise and PHYT 521 Kinesiology and Applications of Exercise. These changes are driven by a need to smooth out the hours and some course content in the two deactivated courses and sequence that material in the new courses. Changing the course content in this way will be beneficial to students who need to match course material with clinical application.

This change would be effective for the 2009 Graduate Catalog.

These courses will not require new faculty resources.

The course passed 17-0-0.

### **Counseling**

Dr. Gibbs spoke to this proposal. The School Counseling program seeks to deactivate EPSY 512 and add EPSY 565, Examination and Implementation of School Counseling Principles. This change is necessitated, among other reasons, by the implementation of new standards of the accrediting body for counseling programs.

This change would be effective for the 2009 Graduate Catalog.

This course will not require new faculty resources.

The course passed 17-0-0.

Third order of business: report from ad hoc committee on admission standards for international students. Dr. Dumas reported on language created by the committee (Yvonne Kilpatrick and Nancy Amberson) to better align current catalog language with current practice. There was considerable discussion on the item related to the veracity of the TOEFL as a solid predictor of English speaking and listening ability; to degree to which time in a country/region/school that is English speaking provides a surrogate measure of oral fluency with English; appropriate length of time that TOEFL and IELTS are available for scores and other issues related to standards within specific departments and their program responsibility to ensure that students have the requisite communication skills to participate in team driven exercise and or complete an acceptable research project such as a thesis/dissertation. There was a friendly amendment to change the language on page one from "testing" to "assessment." Furthermore, there was a recommendation that a form be made available to students who may request an exemption and the location of this form should be identified in the Graduate Catalog. The policy recommendation passed on first reading 17-0-0.

The minutes from November 13, 2009 were approved by voice vote with a correction of the spelling of council on page two.

A motion for adjourning was made by Dr. Brian O'Leary, seconded by Dr. Chris Smith. The Council voted by voice for adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie L. Bellar