

**University Graduate Council Minutes  
Richards Hall, VPAA Conference Room  
December 9, 2016 Noon**

**Council Members in Attendance**

Dr. Margie Yates (COEHP), Chair  
Dr. Ellen Roberts (AA), Associate Provost  
Dr. John Ellisor (COLS)  
Dr. Nicholas Bolden (COLS)  
Dr. Scott Harris (COA)  
Dr. Andres Jauregui (TCOB)  
Dr. Greg Blalock (COEHP)  
Dr. Kevin Burgess (COLS)

Dr. Tammy Condrey (COEHP)  
Dr. Shamim Khan (TCOB)

**Ex-Officio Members**

Dr. Tina Butcher (AA)  
Ms. Kristen Williams-Griffin (EM)

**Topics**

**Item 1: Welcome, Lunch, and Approval of November Minutes.**

Dr. Yates called the meeting to order and the council approved the November minutes with one correction.

**Item 2: Report from the Associate Provost for Graduate Education.**

Graduate Student Advisory Committee. Dr. Roberts reported on a meeting of the Graduate Student Advisory Board in which those present served as a focus group for the university's Strategic Plan. Many graduate students demonstrated a good understanding of the workings of the university and made helpful comments about its strengths and opportunities for the future. Dr. Roberts expressed thanks to members of the Council who encouraged their students to be present for the meeting.

**Item 3: Old Business.**

Approval of Graduate Faculty. The Grad Council approved five (5) faculty members for full graduate faculty status and four (4) individuals for provisional graduate faculty status.

**Item 4: New Business.**

Master of Science in Social Work. The Graduate Council did not take up the review of the prospectus for the Master of Science in Social Work as planned in the original meeting agenda.

Graduate Programs with Degree Tracks. Dr. Roberts proposed a policy change that would enable students who graduated from a graduate program with tracks to return to add an additional track that would then appear on the student's transcript. She discussed the need to more fully differentiate course requirements between degree programs with tracks. She suggested that the tracks within a graduate program should largely require the students to take different courses as opposed to duplicating courses from track to track. Typically, only core courses should be duplicated from one track to another. Such a plan would discourage "double-dipping" in degree tracks so that a student could not graduate in two different degree tracks by applying the same courses to both. Dr. Roberts encouraged

council members to discuss this issue in their departments and the council would discuss a specific policy proposal in the future.

**Item 5: Announcements.**

BS+MS Degrees. Combined BS +MS degrees were a topic of conversation at SACSCOC in December. Students must complete a minimum of 150 unduplicated hours for the undergraduate + graduate degree – 120 for the undergraduate program and 30 for the graduate program.

Changes to Grad Faculty Qualifications. Dr. Yates reminded the council that the approved changes to the list of Grad Faculty Qualifications would go into effect on Jan. 17. She also announced that applications for Grad Faculty Status for the 2017-2018 year would begin in February.

E-Mail Deluge. Dr. Yates also brought up the issue of e-mail deluge to the council. She contended that students, grad students in particular, are receiving too many e-mails and she would like the council to look into the matter and make some recommendation on the subject if required.

**Adjournment: 1:50 p.m.**