Minutes of the First Meeting of  
The Graduate Council 2006-2007

Date and Time: Thursday, September 7, 2006, at 2:30 p.m.
Place: Provost’s Conference Room, 104 Administration
Attendance: John Borrelli (presiding), Pat DeLucia, Stephen Ekwaro-Osire, Nora Griffin-Shirley, Saif-ul Haq, Gary Harris, Scott Hein, Janice Killian, David Lawver, Madonna Miner, Miriam Mulsow, and Comfort Pratt
Ex-officio: Wendell Aycock, Duane Crawford, Cliff Fedler, Ralph Ferguson, Liz Hall, and Zeb Alexander

The Graduate Council Minutes are available in the Graduate School office and on the Graduate School website at www.depts.ttu.edu/gradschool.

1. Minutes of the ninth meeting, held on July 6, 2006, were approved as distributed.

2. The following students were admitted to candidacy for the doctorate on the recommendation of their departments:

   Jonathan Arnett ............................................. Technical Communication & Rhetoric
   Cagatay Ates .............................................................. Educational Psychology
   Christopher Betts ...................................................... Chemical Engineering
   Ryan Boettger ........................................ Technical Communication & Rhetoric
   Allison Boroda ............................................................ Educational Psychology
   Matthew Campbell ......................................................... Biology
   Ilhan Demiralp ............................................................... Business Administration
   Ningchun Han ............................................................. Instructional Technology
   Nathaniel Harness ................................... Consumer Economics & Environmental Design
   Darryl Haslam ......................................................... Marriage & Family Therapy
   Sarah L. Hendley ............................................................. Special Education
   Cynthia Holubik ......................................................... Instructional Technology
   Matthew Jackson .......................................................... Mechanical Engineering
   Songsu Kang ................................................................. Chemistry
   Venkata Adiseshu Kattuboina ........................................... Chemistry
   Yung P. Koh ................................................................. Chemical Engineering
   Ramkumar Kunnavakkamvinjamur .................................. Mechanical Engineering
   Michael Aaron Levin ..................................................... Business Administration
   Veena S. Mellarkod ......................................................... Computer Science
   Omkar A. Nafday .......................................................... Chemical Engineering
   Suzanne Nesmith ......................................................... Curriculum & Instruction
   Nina Quimette ............................................................. Instructional Technology
   Kim Richardson ............................................................... History
   Mark Edward Riley ......................................................... Business Administration
   Derek Ross ................................................................. Technical Communication & Rhetoric
   Vicki Swier ................................................................. Zoology
   Mohammed Hanif Talukder ........................................... Mathematics
   Dwayne Earl Towell ......................................................... Computer Science
3. Graduate Faculty:

   a. The Graduate Council considered and approved 34 applicants for Graduate Faculty. The new members are:

   Jean-Michel Brismee (Rehabilitation Sciences)
   Laura Bryan (Applied and Professional Studies) (Visiting)
   Nancy Clopton (Rehabilitation Sciences)
   Stephen Cobb (Rehabilitation Sciences)
   John Daniel (Rehabilitation Sciences)
   Greg Dedrick (Rehabilitation Sciences)
   Kerry K. Gilbert (Rehabilitation Sciences)
   Stuart L. Gillan (Finance)
   Tori Gustafson (Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences) (Visiting)
   Lynn Hamilton (Laboratory Sciences and Primary Care)
   Joel D. Hubbard (Laboratory Sciences and Primary Care)
   Craig Johnston (Clinical Administration and Rehab Counseling)
   Michael W. Jones (Chemistry & Biochemistry)
   Tigga Kingston (Biological Sciences)
   Hal S. Larsen (Laboratory Sciences and Primary Care)
   James E. Leist (Educational Psychology and Leadership) (Visiting)
   Nichole Morelock (Applied and Professional Studies) (Adjunct)
   Brenda Rodgers (Biological Sciences) (Visiting)
   Loretta Rudd (Educational Psychology and Leadership)
   C. Robin Satterwhite (Clinical Administration and Rehab Counseling)
   Barbara Sawyer (Laboratory Sciences and Primary Care)
   Steven F. Sawyer (Rehabilitation Sciences)
   Dawndra Scott (Rehabilitation Sciences)
   Phillip S. Sizer (Rehabilitation Sciences)
   Michael P. Smith (Rehabilitation Sciences)
   Sara Smock (Applied and Professional Studies)
   Evans H. Spears (Clinical Administration and Rehab Counseling)
   Lois Stickley (Rehabilitation Sciences)
   Jeff N. Stovall (Civil & Environmental Engineering) (Adjunct)
   Tootie Tatum (Laboratory Sciences and Primary Care)
   Leslee Taylor (Rehabilitation Sciences)
   Elizabeth Williamson (Rehabilitation Sciences)
   Eunseog Youn (Computer Science)
   Kai Zhang (Biological Sciences)
4. Academic Requests
   a. The following courses were approved:

   COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND NATURAL RESOURCES
   PSS 5370 US Global Cotton Fiber (Change in number from 5270; change in hours from 2:2:0 to 3:3:0)

   COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
   GERM 5314 History of the German Language (Addition)

   COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
   ME 5355 Complexity Theory for Design and Process (Addition)

   b. Following representation by Drs. Kishor Mehta and Andy Swift, the Graduate Council approved a proposal for the Wind Science and Engineering Doctoral Degree. This is an Interdisciplinary degree and will be housed through the INDS Program in the Graduate School.

5. IELTS (International English and Language Testing System) – The International English Language Testing Service (IELTS) exam is given in General and Academic versions (called “modules”). The academic version has proved to be an excellent method of determining the English language proficiency of non-native speakers entering undergraduate and graduate programs. The latest version of the IELTS (2004) prompted ETS to revamp its internet-based TOEFL (iBT TOEFL) before the latter debuted in June 2005. Like the iBT TOEFL, the IELTS has four sections (called “bands”): listening, reading, writing, and speaking. Unlike the iBT TOEFL, however, the IELTS speaking section requires the test taker to have a face-to-face interactive dialogue with an IELTS rater, a process which has been argued to be a better indicator of English language speaking proficiency. Test security is guaranteed via the requirement that test takers provide two forms of personal identification. All available psychometric data have consistently indicated that the IELTS band scores are valid and reliable for two years, as are iBT TOEFL scores. Applicants benefit from the IELTS in three principal ways: (a) it is offered at virtually every British embassy/consular office in the world, making it much more available to applicants than the iBT TOEFL; (b) it is offered more frequently than the iBT TOEFL; and (c) the cost of the exam is indexed to each country’s average per capita income, thereby making it significantly less expensive than the fixed-price iBT TOEFL, particularly for applicants in developing countries.

The Graduate Council approved a proposal by the Graduate School to begin accepting Academic-module IELTS scores this fall, with a 6.5 overall band score minimum requirement and the stipulation that submitted scores be no more than two years old.

6. James R. Reckner from The Vietnam Center addressed the Graduate Council.

   The Vietnam Center and Vietnam Archive are resources unique to Texas Tech. The Center and Archive have raised TTU’s national stature and have contributed strongly to internationalizing TTU’s curriculum and integrating teaching, research, and service missions across disciplinary boundaries. Dean Jane Winer has proposed, and Provost Marcy has approved:

   (a) establishing a new Center for War and Diplomacy in the Post-Cold War Era as a parallel development to the existing Vietnam Center and Vietnam Archive;
(b) establishing a Department of Military and Diplomatic History, along with relevant degree programs, to (1) focus on the United States and its military and diplomatic interactions with the world in the 20th and 21st centuries and to (2) serve as the academic home of the Vietnam Center and Vietnam Archive and the Center for War and Diplomacy in the Post-Cold War Era; and

(c) establishing a new Institute for Modern Conflict, Diplomacy, and Reconciliation to bring all of the above entities (i.e., Vietnam Center and Vietnam Archive; Center for War and Diplomacy in the Post-Cold War Era; and Department of Military and Diplomatic History) and others under a single executive director.

The executive director of this new institute will report directly to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and will oversee the work of the two centers, assist in and supervise relevant international activities, and serve as Chairperson of the Department of Military and Diplomatic History.

A significant aspect of this new Institute and its component parts is the study of military history and the development of curricular options integrating the study of military history and modern diplomacy. Thus, Dr. Jane Winer proposed, and Provost Marcy has approved, that the Department of Military Science and the Department of Aerospace Studies be reassigned as component elements of the new institute, reporting to its executive director. It is believed that the association of these two departments with the new Department of Military and Diplomatic History and with the Vietnam Center and Archive and the Post-Cold War Center will draw them more closely into the intellectual life of the university and will better prepare our ROTC and AFROTC students for careers within or outside the military. All of the existing entities are part of the College of Arts and Sciences. Dean Winer has proposed, and Provost Marcy has approved, that the new entities be created within the College and remain within it as a coherent structure better suited than our present structures to achieve institutional goals.

In sum, the following new and existing entities will become component parts of the new Institute for Modern Conflict, Diplomacy, and Reconciliation:

(a) the Department of Military and Diplomatic History (new);
(b) the Department of Military Science (existing);
(c) the Department of Aerospace Studies (existing);
(d) the Vietnam Center and Vietnam Archive (existing); and
(e) the Center for War and Diplomacy in the Post-Cold War Era (new).

New degree programs at the masters and doctoral levels are being proposed.

7. Other Business

a. Dr. Borrelli announced that graduate enrollment is 3% ahead of last year on the 12th class day.

b. Dr. Borrelli announced that $50,000 has been added to the Graduate Enrollment Enhancement Program fund. Departments are encouraged to bring prospective doctoral students to campus. More doctoral students helps the University with formula funding. The Recruitment Enhancement Fund matches 50% with programs. Programs are encouraged to use the fund as much as possible to effectively bring in prospective graduate students, to print brochures, etc.
c. Provost Marcy has approved an increase in student travel funds from $100,000 to $150,000. The Graduate School matches 50% with programs.

d. Dr. Elizabeth Hall announced that the Provost has doubled the money from his office for the TEACH Program, a program which trains doctoral students to be professors. The program is entering its third year, and universities that have hired professors who were trained in the TEACH program are recognizing the effectiveness of the program.

e. The Graduate School has received $50,000 discretionary funds from the Helen Jones Foundation, which will provide support and enhance existing programs and new initiatives undertaken by the Graduate School that cannot be paid from state funds. Specific use of the funds includes travel, student recognition awards, professional development, workshops, communications and public outreach efforts, networking, and preparedness workshops.

f. The Helen Devitt Jones Part-Time Graduate Student Scholarship is available for new and continuing graduate students pursuing any major or area of study within the University. Applicants must be consistently enrolled part-time as a graduate student—enrolled in less than 9 hours per long semester or less than 6 hours per summer semester—to receive this scholarship. Students who have a waiver to identify them as full-time, yet are taking less than 9 hours, are not eligible for this scholarship. Awards will range from $100 - $1,000, and are based on the student's hours of enrollment, level of scholarship, and financial need. Awards are for one semester, and students may reapply at the end of the award period.

9. Zeb Alexander informed the Graduate Council that the Student Government Association is going through the process that will change the faculty lounge in the SUB to the Faculty/Graduate Student Lounge as a part of building a greater graduate community. Zeb would like to create a colloquium of graduate organization leaders that would tackle graduate issues among the colleges and hopefully play a part in the construction of a Graduate School Bill of Rights.

10. Announcements

   a. Texas Tech University’s request to create a Master of Agribusiness (MAB) degree in Agribusiness has been approved by the Coordinating Board.

   b. Texas Tech University’s request to change the Master of Music (MM) degree in Music History and Literature to a Master of Music (MM) degree in Musicology was approved by the Coordinating Board.

The next Graduate Council meeting will be on October 5, 2006, at 2:30 p.m., in the Provost’s Conference Room, 104 Administration.