Minutes of the Third Meeting of
The Graduate Council 2005-2006

Date and Time: Thursday, November 3, 2005, at 2:30 p.m.
Place: Provost’s Conference Room, 104 Administration
Attendance: Wendell Aycock (presiding), Nancy Bell, Stephen Ekwaro-Osire, Nora Griffin-Shirley, Saif-ul Haq, Scott Hein, Aretha Marbly, Richard McGlynn, Madame Miner and Mike Parkinson
Ex-officio: Duane Crawford, Cliff Fedler, Ralph Ferguson, Liz Hall and John Hanson
Guests: Colleen Fitzgerald, Pam Johnson, Carol Layton and Robin Lock

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 second meeting, held on October 6, 2005, were approved as distributed.

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

Md Rejwan Ali ................................................................. Physics
Anjing Bi ............................................................................. Civil Engineering
George Bitar ................................................................. Marriage & Family Therapy
Qingsong Cai ................................................................. Environmental Toxicology
Michael David Cevallos .................................................... Electrical Engineering
Faith Drew ................................................................. Marriage & Family Therapy
John Gilliam ................................................................. Consumer Economics & Environmental Design
John Hayes ................................................................. Consumer Economics & Environmental Design
Sangnyeol Jung ............................................................. Agricultural & Applied Economics
Bryan A. Reece ............................................................. Biology
Paul Springer ................................................................. Marriage & Family Therapy
Jo-szu Tsai ................................................................. Wildlife Science
Dandan Zhu ................................................................. Consumer Economics & Environmental Design

3. Graduate Faculty:

a. The Graduate Council considered and approved 23 applicants for Graduate Faculty. The new members are:

Elizabeth Appleby (CMLL-French) (Visiting)
Sukanta Basu (Geosciences)
Margaret Binkley (Nutrition, Hospitality, and Retailing)
Joshua Bonzo (CMLL-German) (Visiting)
4. Academic Requests:

   a. The following courses were approved:

   **COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND NATURAL RESOURCES**
   AAEC 5314 Environmental Economics and Policy Analysis (Addition)
   PSS 5330 Advanced Environmental Soil Chemistry (Addition)

   **COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**
   ENGL 5338 Syntax (Addition)
   ENGL 5339 Phonology (Addition)
   PHIL 5323 Business Ethics (Addition)

   b. The Graduate Council approved a Graduate Certificate Proposal in Autism, following a presentation by Dr. Robin Lock.

   c. The Graduate Council approved a Graduate Certificate Proposal in Linguistics following a presentation by Dr. Colleen Fitzgerald.

5. The Association of Texas Graduate School annual meeting was held at Texas Tech University on October 27 and 28. The theme of the meeting was Cooperation in the Age of Technology. Fifty deans from across Texas enjoyed the lectures and sharing sessions as well as the delicious meals.

6. Announcements

   a. Dr. Liz Hall announced that he Workload Policy is up for review. Anyone who has comments or ideas should send them to Liz at Elizabeth.c.hall@ttu.edu.

   b. Dr. Stephen Ekwaro-Osire announced that the First Annual Tenure Academy which was held on Friday, November 4, 2005 in the University Library. The purpose of the tenure academy is to demystify the tenure process.
c. Dr. Nora Griffin-Shirley announced that the Virginia Murray Sowell Center for the education and Research of Visually Impaired has received funding for two graduate fellows, Derrick Smith and Sharon Summers, from the National Center in Leadership for Visual Impairments. They received full tuition plus $20,000 for 4 years.

7. Other Business

a. Dr. Cliff Fedler reminded the Graduate Council of the graduate fellowship deadlines which range from February 1 through March 8. The deadlines for each fellowship are available at www.scholarships.grad.ttu.edu. All graduate fellowships are designed for full-time students with the exception of one. The Preston Smith Fellowship is also available to part-time students. The SBC-Chancellor’s Fellowship is designed for students who are new to the degree programs. Nominations are no longer to be ranked by the departments. All fellowship applications are to be submitted electronically. Future improvement should include internet applications. Letters of recommendation are encouraged. Following the announcement that the SBC-Chancellor’s Fellowship would be offered in both the fall and spring, discussion took place about whether or not the spring offering would be hurtful to some departments’ scholarship efforts. Various council members expressed their opinions, both pro and con to the change. Dr. Liz Hall suggested that this matter might be referred to the Student Affairs Committee. Dr. Aycock said that the graduate deans would seek a resolution to the issue and report back to the Graduate Council.

b. According to Dr. Duane Crawford, the new GRE will be introduced in the fall of 2006. The verbal and quantitative sections will be expanded and as a result the test will now be four hours in duration rather than the present 2.5 hours. The quantitative section will de-emphasize geometry and rely more on data interpretation skills. The cost of the exam will increase, and it will be given on only 29 days during the year, on days to be decided. The scoring system will also change from the familiar 200-800 scale to a 120-179 scale. The Graduate School will alert programs as other changes become known.

c. Dr. Ralph Ferguson represented the Graduate School in partnership with the Vietnam Center, the Health Sciences Center, the Institute of Environment and Human Health, and the College of Education on a trip Vietnam to finalize the development of a research project between TTU and Can Tho University of Medicine and Pharmacy. This research project helped the university to better understand the specific needs in infectious disease suppression.

d. Student who already have Financial Aid need to work with the Financial Aid office when applying for a Gelin Loan.

The next Graduate Council meeting will be on December 1, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. in the Provost’s Conference Room, 104 Administration.