

Graduate Council Meeting  
Minutes  
December 12, 2008

Present: Muehsam, Abshire, Boccaccini, Cook, Nichter, Price, Reed, Tayebi

I. Approve Minutes

The minutes from November 14, 2008 were approved.

II. Review Graduate Faculty Status Recommendations

Per the Graduate Faculty Status Policy, the Council reviewed and made graduate faculty status recommendations for nominations.

III. Review Policies

The Council reviewed the policy regarding seeking a second master's degree. Through discussion, there were varied interpretations of this policy regarding whether or not both degrees should be received at SHSU. It was agreed that the policy needs to be changed to reflect clarity of this issue. As it reads currently, the policy is vague. The Council is to share this policy with their faculty regarding whether the policy should indicate that both master's degrees should come from SHSU or one can come from SHSU.

The Council is to bring to the next meeting their thoughts regarding receiving second master's degrees with regard to the number of transfer hours allowed. SACS requires that a minimum of 50% of coursework come from the degree-granting institution.

Currently, there is the 6 year rule to receive a master's degree. The deans are allowed to extend this period of time for one year. Council agreed that parameters and guidelines need to be set for this rule. The Council will discuss this issue with their faculty and share the information at the next Council meeting.

The Council was asked to look at the policies for transfer credit and second master's degrees and see if the two policies align with each other.

IV. Exit Surveys

There was discussion as to whether or not it is appropriate to make a university exit survey, a program survey or something from Graduate Studies. Currently there are not benchmark standards. The Council was asked to think about if exit surveys are valuable and if "yes," what types of information are valuable.

V. Recruiting in Sri Lanka

The Math Education department has a pipeline with Sri Lanka bringing in talented math students. The Council was asked to give some thought as to whether or not their programs would be interested in doing this type of recruiting with Sri Lanka. The Office of Graduate Studies will make available its CD/DVD Duplicator for recruiting materials.

VI. Miscellaneous

A topic of discussion at the next meeting will be "Grades for Dissertations or Thesis."