

Graduate Council Meeting  
Minutes  
October 30, 2009

Present: Tayebi, Ashorn, Bilhartz, Cook, Irving, Nichter, Reed, Vaughn, Waggener

I. Approve Minutes

The minutes were approved from the meeting held on July 29, 2009.

II. Review Graduate Faculty Status Recommendations

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

III. Graduate Enrollment Growth/Program Quality

Graduate enrollment is down for this academic year. We have to have growth at all levels but especially at the Master's level. Graduate Studies is in the process of doing things to help stimulate growth. In the very near future, we will move to the Applied Texas Application. This application has been revised by Graduate Studies to include the clarity of what program the student is applying to. We are pushing to have the application ready for all prospective students to complete by summer and fall 2010.

For prospective students the Council was asked to please have their advisors put a link to the Applied Texas Application which is on the Graduate Studies webpage.

IV. STAMATS, Hobsons, Graduate Recruiter

The Office of Graduate Studies has hired an outside consulting firm, Stamats, Inc., to assist in the development of a unified, consistent, and effective communication process for graduate student recruitment efforts. Stamats representatives will be on campus December 3, 2009 to meet with representatives from various graduate programs and key players in the graduate recruitment process.

Hobsons Services is a company that will work with us with the Applied Texas Application. Once a student has applied, letters of communication will be generated to that student in an effort to constantly stay in touch through the application and enrollment process.

Graduate Studies will hire a graduate recruiter who will be housed in the Office of Graduate Studies. The recruiter will travel to job fairs, universities, etc. to help bring students in to SHSU. This staff person will work with the different academic programs to learn the necessary information to present to prospective students.

V. Scholarships – SDR's

Financial Aid has requested that SDR's for scholarships be submitted as soon as a student is accepted. It is very important that these are turned in early. The Council was informed that a student who is Post-Bac seeking teacher certification is eligible for financial aid.

VI. Dissertation/Thesis Streamline

This item will be discussed at the next meeting regarding where do students have the biggest problems in the process of moving their dissertations or thesis along through the system