

University Graduate Council

February 21, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Call to order

Dr. Coronado called the University Graduate Council meeting to order at 11:35 am on Friday, February 21, 2020 at KLM 102.

Roll call

Present: Jose Cardona-Lopez, Marcus Carey, Jennifer Coronado-UGC Chair, Deepak Ganta, Puneet Gill, Tonya Huber, Heidi Landry (Teleconference), Thomas Mitchell- TAMIU Provost, Abhijit Patwardhan, Julian Pena, Haibo Wang, Rodney Webb, Ruby Ynalvez.

Taking Minutes: Virginia Morales

Absent: Juan Garcia Jr., Peter Haruna, Diana Linn, Monica Munoz, Rose Saldivar

New Business

- I. Dr. Coronado welcomed Dr. Thomas Mitchell, TAMIU Provost, to the University Graduate Council to provide feedback to the Continuation of Graduate Studies Policy listed under Graduate Information-Academic Regulations implemented to the 2019-2020 University Catalog. University Graduate Council members were given a copy of Dr. Mitchell's recommendations, which were to return to the previous Continuation of Graduate Studies Policy before the 2019-2020 University Catalog review/implementations. His recommendations were the following:
 1. Dr. Mitchell started by reminding all University Graduate Council members that the Texas A&M International University Graduate School's main goal is to grow our graduate programs by maintaining the quality and integrity of our graduate programs.
 2. The first part to address under Good Standing, "have no more than one grade of "C", and do not have a grade of "D" or "F". Students should be given the opportunity to retake a grade of "C" or higher to avoid suspension or dismissal.
 3. The second part he addressed was Suspension Because of Academic Performance, "Students may also be suspended from a program if they earn a second grade of "C" or a grade of "D" or "F". Student may not appeal being suspended from a program based on their grades, but they may appeal individual grades that triggered the suspension." If it happens a second time, they don't need to be in Graduate School. Students should be reminded of the drop day.
 4. Another part to address, Expulsion Because of Academic Misconduct. As undergraduates, students are exposed to the academic misconduct consequences and are given opportunities if they are reported for cheating or plagiarism. Graduate students should already be familiar with academic misconduct and should be expelled if caught cheating or plagiarising. Graduate Students may appeal to what triggered the dismissal but may not appeal the policy. Academic Misconduct may be appealed through the Honor Council. The class grade may be appealed through the Department Chair. Students may not appeal the Continuation of Graduate Studies Policy.
 5. An example used by Dr. Mitchell was a foundation course where 29 out of 50 students were caught cheating through a group chat. Through the review of this case, it was determined if a student is found responsible for violation of the TAMIU Honor Code it will lead to expulsion from the university with the recommendation of the Honor Council and approval of the university provost. Academic misconduct will be noted on the student's academic transcript.
 6. It was also noted that an A.R. Sanchez School of Business Ph.D. program policy should be created and listed as a separate statement under the university catalog Continuation of Graduate

Studies. Dr. Mitchell left the University Graduate Council meeting after discussing changes to the Continuation of Graduate Studies Policy recommendation.

Approval of minutes from the last meeting – May 06, 2019

Motion: To approve the minutes for the last meeting (May 06, 2019) by H. Wang,

Seconded by P. Gill.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous vote

Resolved: Minutes from the last meeting (May 06, 2019) were approved

New Business

II. Dr. Coronado provided the University Graduate Council with more information on the TAMIU ARC Grant. With the help of Dr. Kenneth Tobin as CoPI, the Graduate School can now offer support services through the newly created Writing Consultant for Graduate Students. The Writing Consultant provides developmental workshops to help graduate students with developmental sessions for posters, presentations, and thesis writing/formatting.

III. Dr. Coronado provided a list of Graduate School calendar items.

- March 7, 2020 Developing Posters, PLG 211, 10:00 – 12:00 noon
- March 7, 2020 Developing Oral Presentations, PLG 211, 1:00 – 3:00 pm
- March 12, 2020 Graduate School Open House, ZSC 1st Floor, 5:30 – 7:30 pm
- April 4, 2020 Graduate School is Different: A Guide for Success, LBV 108, 10 – 3:00 pm
- April 7-8, 2020 Lamar Bruni Vergara Academic Conference
Registration Deadline: March 8, 2020
- November 5-6, 2020 TAMUS 17th Annual Pathways Student Research Symposium
Texas A&M University - College Station

TAMIU Graduate School will take two buses for students who would like to participate/present and for faculty who would like to participate as judges.

Dr. Coronado took the opportunity to thank all Faculty, Staff and Students who assisted the Graduate School with hosting the 2019 TAMUS 16th Annual Pathways Student Research Symposium.

Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn University Graduate Council meeting by J. Pena, seconded by P. Gill.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous vote

Resolved: University Graduate Council meeting adjourned at 12:41 pm.