

Savannah State University
Graduate Council Minutes for August 28, 2014
4:00pm – 5:10pm
VPAA's Conference Room

Members Present: Nat Hardy, Yousef Jahmani, Hae Yeon Choi, Edward Hood, Kuppuswamy Jayaraman, Bernita Berry, Carol Pride, Carla Curran, Chello Chetty, Mary Jo Fayoyin, Harpal Singh

Guest: Deden Rukmana

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Hardy at 4:00pm. Berry agreed to serve as rotating recorder for the August 28th meeting.

II. Approval of Minutes of May 1, 2014

Minutes of the May 1, 2014 were approved. The Agenda for the August 28th meeting was approved.

Approval of Meeting Agenda for August 28, 2014

Agenda was approved as outlined

III. Possibility of Two-Year Graduate Assistantships (Program Coordinators)

Drs. Curran and Pride presented that current procedures stem from program discretion and is based on graduate assistant's overall performance per semester (i.e. thesis, GPA, etc.). After further discussion, Dr. Singh made a motion that the Grad Council make a resolution that University Administration initiate a state funding line for TAs (Teaching Assistants) other than grant supported. The motion was seconded by Pride and approved by the Council.

IV. New Proposal of Fast-Tract Admission Procedure to the MSUS (Master of Science in Urban Studies) for SSU Students

Dr. Deden Rukmana, Coordinator for MSUS Program, presented the proposed structure for the graduate degree program and that the rationale is to increase enrollment. Extensive discussion focused on the admission requirements which, as presented in the proposal, eliminate all of the basic requirements that each current SSU graduate program follows. Dr. Rukmana stated the applicants will not be required to take the GRE. The Graduate Council recommended the following for Dr. Rukmana to present to the MSUS department faculty for review:

Student application requirements include the following:

- complete graduate application
- overall GPA of 2.6

- 2 letters of professional recommendation
 - No GRE requirement
 - Minutes-item IV. In my opinion, a statement (essay) from the applicant should be also a part of the application process.
- H. Singh

This will be reviewed and discussed at the next Graduate Meeting.

V. Offering In-State Tuition for all Graduate Students on Grant Support; Offering Reduced Fees for Graduate Students

Drs. Curran and Pride stated that this is a USG system policy to offer all grad students on grant support in-state tuition. In-State tuition is now included for Georgia research institutions and this is a USG system policy. Dr. Hardy said he will follow up and report at the next Council meeting.

VI. Criteria for Approval of Graduate Council Members

Dr. Curran presented this item on behalf of Dr. Kalantari. Dr. Kalantari, who was absent from this Grad Council meeting and requested that this item be included on the agenda, has a concern about the mechanism for inclusion of being a member of the Graduate Council. Some concerns listed were: By-Laws not approved; no tiers for membership (i.e. full, adjunct, etc.); criteria in graduate already approved, each department has or use a base of criteria. Berry said she will review files that she has on who is listed as a member of the graduate council.

VII. Announcements

Kudos to Dr. Hardy on the Graduate Orientation

Meeting adjourned at 5:05pm