

# ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Texas Tech University

Meeting of  
**April 23, 2013**

## MINUTES

**Present:** Cindy Akers, Stefanie Borst, Bobbie Brown, Cathy Duran, Gary Elbow, Clifton Ellis, Clifford Fedler, Ryan Gibbs, Jarod Gonzalez, Sheila Gray for Ethan Logan, Melanie Hart, Bob Henry, Sheila Hoover, Lynn Huffman, Patrick Hughes, Jorge Iber, Peggy Johnson, Sue Jones, Michelle Kiser, Debbie Laverie, Justin Louder, Andrew Martin, Audra Morse, Marjean Purinton, David Roach, Christine Self, Brian Shannon, Brian Steele, Rob Stewart (chair), Kevin Stoker, Janessa Walls, Vicky West, Aliza Wong

**Guests:** Loretta Bradley, Matt Ducatt, Kathleen Gillis, David Hamilton, Cole Johnson, JoAnn Klinker, Kristina Lusk, Jacob Price

Stewart presented the minutes of the March 19, 2013, meeting. Purinton moved the minutes be accepted as presented. Akers seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Johnson, manager of the Barnes and Noble Bookstore at Texas Tech, gave an overview of the services provided to faculty by the bookstore, including a new online textbook adoption program and integration of digital textbooks into Blackboard.

Gillis, director of the University Writing Center, presented an overview and handout of her two-page "State of Writing at TTU 2013 for the Academic Council." Stewart asked council members to share in their colleges the summary and data provided by Gillis and send responses to him.

Walls, Lusk and Prince provided a PowerPoint display of the university's efforts in physical and technological updating of general program classrooms. The goal is to update about 100 classrooms within the main Texas Tech campus (one-half of the campus). Forty-two classrooms in six buildings have been updated thus far.

Elbow and Klinker presented a proposal for a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership in the Department of Educational Psychology and Leadership within the College of Education. Klinker said the distance education program is conceptualized as preparing experienced K-12 administrators and those with comparable professional experience to fill university faculty roles, become policy analysts, research interventionists, and/or educators capable of influencing reform at the political level. The current Ed.D. in Educational Leadership will be retained for practitioners. Johnson moved that the proposal be accepted, Audra seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Bradley presented a proposal from the Department of Educational Psychology and Leadership to rename and increase the hours of a track within the M.Ed. in Counselor Education. To comply with professional accreditation standards, Bradley proposed that the Community Counseling track be renamed "Clinical Mental Health Counseling" and the credit hours be increased from 48 to 60. The 48-hour School Counseling track will remain the same. Huffman moved that the proposal be accepted, Purinton seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Hamilton presented a proposal to establish an accelerated program for political science majors to obtain 9 credit hours in public administration their senior year to count toward their undergraduate degree in political science and their master's degree in public administration. Akers moved that the council accept the proposed 153-hour accelerated B.A./M.P.A, Henry seconded the motion, and the motion passed. The accelerated program does not require THECB approval but does require notification.

Elbow presented a proposal for a 15-hour Graduate Certificate in Multidisciplinary Science within the Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the College of Education. Johnson moved the proposal be accepted, Morse seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Stoker notified the council that the College of Media and Communication will be phasing out its minor in mass communications.

Jones presented the May course approval summary. Jones moved that the courses be approved as presented. Purinton seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Elbow reported on his meeting with Henry, Jones, and Interim Graduate Dean Dominick Casadonte to develop further revisions to the graduate course approval process, thus ensuring Graduate School input into course decisions and a one-month disposition of course approval forms year round. A handout was provided to all council members detailing the proposed process. In summary, graduate courses must be submitted to Official Publications by the first Tuesday of the month. A three-person graduate committee will have one week to review the courses and respond by the second Tuesday of the month. Lack of response will indicate no recommendations. If the committee has recommendations, these will be reported to Jones, who will work either to resolve the concerns prior to the Academic Council meeting or present the concerns to the council for discussion and/or a decision. Stoker moved that the revised process be accepted as presented, Purinton seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Stewart reported that the Alumni Association wants to award \$10,000 as an academic program support grant. He told council members they would receive details by email and applications should be submitted during the summer.