

In attendance: Mark Zoran, Dick Haney, Scott Miller, Mark Burris, Dennis Jansen, Patricia Hurley, Sara Khalifa, Leslie Feigenbaum, Kimberly Vannest, Sam Kirkpatrick, Nicole Kinslow, Julie Wilson, Jane Welsh, Dave Reed, Kevin Heinz, Jana Corley.

**1. Approval of December 2012 and January 2013 Minutes**

The December 2012 and January 2013 minutes were approved.

**2. Discussion Items:**

- a. **English Language Proficiency task force and TA training task force.** Two task forces have been created by Dr. Butler-Purry. Dr. Zoran is chairing the English Language Proficiency task force. This is the third task force to look at this issue in about 15 years. Their first meeting will take place next week. Dr. Miller is chairing the TA Training task force. They will look at current policies and at the types of voluntary and mandatory training.
- b. **Veterinary Professional Program reviews.** Currently matters relating to the Veterinary Professional Program go through UCC. The Provost is looking at this to see if UCC is the appropriate body to be reviewing Professional Program requests. Other options include shifting to Graduate Council or perhaps creating a Professional Program Council. As the merger with the HSC nears, and with the possibility of adding a law school, more questions regarding this issue are arising. The Provost will make the final decision.
- c. **Signature Recommendations for Theses and Dissertations.** A new approval form has been created based upon the recommendation of GC. The new form allows for one dissention. The names of all committee members will be listed on the cover page, but the words "Approved by" have been removed.
- d. **Academic Calendar.** Dr Cunningham is the GC representative on the committee that is looking at the academic calendar. There is a proposal to allow students to have a Thanksgiving break which would cancel classes the entire week of Thanksgiving. The options presented would result in finals and reading days being rescheduled. Discussion followed relating to the impact on graduate students, and Graduate Council recommends making no changes to the academic calendar in regards to the week of Thanksgiving. Any additional input should be sent to Dr. Cunningham.

**3. New Course Requests:**

The following new course requests were approved by the Graduate Council with friendly amendments:

- a. ASTR 601 Extragalactic Astronomy
- b. ASTR 602 Astronomical Observing Techniques and Instrumentation
- c. ASTR 603 Stellar Astrophysics
- d. ASTR 604 Cosmology
- e. ASTR 605 Galactic Astronomy
- f. ASTR 606 Radiative Transfer
- g. ECMT 674 Economic Forecasting
- h. EDTC 641 Educational Game Design
- i. PHYS 641 Extragalactic Astronomy
- j. PHYS 642 Astronomical Observing Techniques and Instrumentation
- k. PHYS 643 Stellar Astrophysics
- l. PHYS 644 Cosmology

- m. PHYS 645 Galactic Astronomy
- n. PHYS 646 Radiative Transfer

**4. Course Change Requests:**

The following course change requests were approved by the Graduate Council:

- a. PHYS 606 Quantum Mechanics
- b. PHYS 607 Statistical Mechanics
- c. PHYS 611 Electromagnetic Theory
- d. PHYS 615 Methods of Theoretical Physics I
- e. PHYS 619 Modern Computational Physics
- f. PHYS 624 Quantum Mechanics
- g. VLCS 622 Equine Disease and Epidemiology

**5. Special Consideration Items:**

The following special consideration item was approved by the Graduate Council:

- a. Liberal Arts: Request for name change from Master of Arts in Modern & Classical languages with an emphasis in Spanish to a Master of Arts in Hispanic Studies.