



In attendance: Mark Zoran, Dick Haney, Carmelita Pickett, Leslie Feigenbaum, Mark Burris, Scott Miller, Nancy Duran, Sara Khalifa, Taylor Smith, George Cunningham, Jane Welsh, R. Saravanan, Dave Reed, Doug Eckel, Patricia Hurley, Kevin Barge, Kevin Heinz, Laura Hammons, Amanda Jeffs

**1. Approval of September 2012 Minutes**

The September 2012 minutes were approved with friendly amendments.

**2. Discussion Items:**

- a. Signature Requirements on Thesis and Dissertation Forms: The current final examination form allows for one dissension, but the thesis/dissertation approval form does not allow for any dissensions. The cover page of the thesis/dissertation reads, "Approved by:" and lists the whole committee. This is inconsistent to allow dissension on the final exam form, but not the thesis/dissertation forms. There is no reason why the thesis/dissertation form should not allow one dissension like the final examination form. The committee discussed formatting changes to the thesis/dissertation forms and decided that for internal university documents, there needs to be a place for a committee member to document his/her dissension. For the cover page of the thesis/dissertation, the student will only list their chair and department head. If the student would like to show that they have worked with the other members of their committee, the student can list them on his/her CV. The final defense form will be kept as is, and the thesis/dissertation approval form will allow one dissent.

**3. New Course Requests:**

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

- a. BAEN 617 Fundamentals of Nanoscale Biological Engineering
- b. BMEN 672 Introduction to Diagnostic Radiology Physics
- c. ECEN 751 Computational Methods for Integrated System Design
- d. ECEN 752 Advances in VLSI Circuit Design
- e. LAND 635 Concepts in Ecological Planning and Design
- f. NUEN 672 Introduction to Diagnostic Radiology Physics
- g. PLAN 635 Concepts in Ecological Planning and Design
- h. RPTS 655 Applied Biodiversity Science I
- i. WFSC 655 Applied Biodiversity Science

**4. Course Change Requests:**

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

- a. ESSM 651 Geographic Information Systems
- b. RPTS 666 Tourism and the Natural Environment
- c. SCSC 654 Genome Analysis

**5. Special Consideration Items:**

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

- a. Request from the Department of Marine Sciences to allow undergraduate Ocean and Coastal Resources (OCRE) majors to enter the Master of Marine Resources Management program at the beginning of their fourth year at Texas A&M University at Galveston, resulting in a 5-year degree program.