The University of Texas
Rio Grande Valley

## Graduate Committee Meeting
## February 4, 2021

1) **Chairs Call to Order**
2) **Roll Call**

| Members: | College: |
|---|---|
| Charles Roush | University Library |
| Nancy Razo | College of Education & P-16 Integration |
| George Amorim | College of Fine Arts |
| Mataz Alcoutlabi | College of Engineering and Computer Science |
| Lilia Fuentes | School of Nursing |
| Helene Krouse | School of Medicine |
| Leyla Feize | School of Social Work |
| Wanrong Hou | Vackar College of Business and Entrepreneurship |
| Kimberly Selber | College of Liberal Arts |
| Lisa Salinas | College of Health Professions |
| Rupesh Kariyat | College of Science |
| Sandra Hansmann | Graduate College, Ex Officio |
| Laura Saenz | Curriculum & Institutional Assessment Office, Ex Officio |

3) **Consent Agenda**
   a) **Minutes from January 14th, 2021, meeting**

4) **New Business: Review of Submissions**

   a) **College of Education and P-16 Integration**
      i) **Department of Human Development and School Services – Presenter: Cheryl Fielding**
         (1) **Delete Program, New Program**

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AY 2021-2022
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| Name | Type | Comment | Effective Year |
|------|------|---------|----------------|
| Board Certified Behavior Analyst Certification Program (College of Education and P-16 Integration) | Delete Program | The program is being transitioned too fully online. Currently the program has 7 courses in the degree plan. no changes will be made to the degree plan. The cohort of students currently in the program will finish by Fall 2022, so there will be no disruption for students. **Appropriate notification to other external agencies may be needed.** | 22 - 23 |
| Board Certified Behavior Analyst Certification Program - Online Program | New Program | This program is already being offered in the department, they are only changing the modality and updated the content at the top of the catalog page. No updates were made to the admission requirements or the degree plan. | 22 -23 |

b) **College Health Professions**
   i) **Department of Communication Disorders – Presenter: Donald Fuller**
      (1) **Change Program**

| Name | Type | Comment | Effective Year |
|------|------|---------|----------------|
| Communication Sciences and Disorders (MS) | Change Program | There is an update to the admissions to include the Leveling Curriculum Program for students who do not have an undergraduate degree in COMD. There is a removal of the capstone requirement Praxis National Examination due to accreditation standards and the language that references this exam. | 22 - 23 |

c) **Graduate College**
   i) **Policies for Catalog – Presenter: Sandra Hansmann**
      (1) **Addition of Graduate level Policies**

| Name of Policy | Original Policy | New Policy | Effective Year |
|----------------|-----------------|------------|----------------|
| Vaquero Pathway Program for Graduate Admission | None | The Vaquero Pathway Program (VPP) for graduate admission allows graduate faculty members, graduate and undergraduate program coordinators, and chairs/directors to recommend outstanding UTRGV undergraduate students for admission. | 22 - 23 |

Updated 2.2.2021 @ 3:00 p.m.

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| | | This encourages students with excellent academic records to remain at UTRGV for their graduate education. | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Leave of Absence (LOA) | The current policy consists of wording in the Grad Catalog and on the LOA form. | The proposed change unifies these two sources.<br><br>The proposed change also adds a requirement for students to be in good standing when requesting an LOA. | 22-23 |
| Concurrent Degrees | None | The proposed policy defines concurrent (i.e. simultaneous) degrees and lists the available concurrent UTRGV degrees. | 22-23 |
| Second or Subsequent Master's Degrees | The current policy mixes terms "subsequent" and "additional", causing confusion, and does not specific that the second degree cannot be the same as the first. | The proposed change streamlines the wording and specifies that second and subsequent degrees cannot be the same or substantially like each other, including prior degrees earned externally. | 22-23 |
| Academic Probation and Suspension | To clarify wording that is confusing. Currently, applies to degree-seekers only. | Remove degree-seeking, since it applies to certificate and other non-degree seekers. | 22-23 |
| Thesis and Dissertation Committee Policy | Current policy is vague, and exists only in the Thesis and Dissertation Formatting Guides | The proposed policy provides clear minimum standards for thesis/dissertation committee membership and aligns with other UTS institutions guidelines, and would be updated now in the Formatting Guides and added to the catalog 22-23 | 22-23 |

**5) Announcements or Other Informational Items**
  i) Next Meeting – March 4th **This is the last meeting that we will accepting curriculum changes. Due date for materials approved through the Dean's level is February 18th.**

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ii) Next Joint meeting – February 18th. **Due date for materials with all signatures is February 11th.**

6) **Adjournment**