

## GRADUATE COUNCIL

### 2012-2013 END-OF-YEAR REPORT

As is understood by most faculty and staff at ULM, the past year has been one that has reflected a substantial amount of change and a greater work tempo due to increased work demands amidst tighter budget constraints. This has impacted both the workload and the pace at which work must be done significantly during this year. In particular, more and more programs require modifications regarding the structure of the program or the specific criteria for admission. Some examples are as follows:

1. In November of 2012, several changes in admission requirements for the College of Business MBA program were processed.
2. In March 2013, several changes to the specific criteria for faculty who chair dissertations in the Marriage and Family Therapy Ph.D. program were processed.
3. During the Spring 2013 semester, members met, on three separate occasions, to interview candidates for the Graduate School Dean's position.
4. In May of 2013, admission requirement changes to the College of Education and Leadership's *eTEACH* program were processed.
5. Lastly, during several months (particularly in December of 2012, January 2013, and May of 2013) the Graduate Council completed additional and time sensitive business via email votes, while maintaining all regularly published meetings, deadlines, and obligations.

From June 2012 through May 2013, the following matters or routine business were completed by the Graduate Council:

1. 25 Faculty applications for graduate faculty status were processed.
2. 29 Student appeals and/or time extension requests were processed.

In addition, slow but fairly steady progress has been made by the following two subcommittees appointed in 2012:

1. By-Laws Revision Subcommittee [Luse (Chair), Sylvester, and Tolson].
2. Work of the Document Revision Subcommittee [Boult, Hill (Chair), Guernsey-Pitchford, Schween, and later, Hanser, as newly appointed member].

These two subcommittees have been charged with the task of reviewing the working documents of the Graduate Council as well as documents currently utilized by the Graduate School. It is expected that their work will be completed sometime toward the end of August or the beginning of September, 2013, as each committee member's time throughout the summer permits.

During this same year, there was a good deal of change among the membership of the Council. Several members were rotated off the Council while others were added, allowing for more diverse perspectives but also generating the need for member acclimation to the workings

of the Council. Specifically, the following committee member changes were observed during the 2012-2013 academic year:

Rotated of the Graduate Council	Assigned to the Graduate Council
Babin, Laurie	Kogut, Carl
Hodge, Thomas	Barnett, William
Palmer, Jack	Jessika Dolecheck***
Schween, Dorothy	Church, Tommie
Sivakamaran, Thilla	Clark, Leonard

\*\*\* This assignment was made as a means of creating parity in representation among the colleges and to ensure that the College of Health Sciences was appropriately weighted in membership.

Lastly, the Graduate Council is one of the few committees that meets throughout the entire year, including the months of June, July, and August. As such, many committee members are required to attend during times when they are otherwise off during the summer. To date, most all members do attend these meetings without objection, allowing the Council to process university business in a smooth and stable fashion. Thus, when one adds the 12 regular meetings that the Council has scheduled throughout the year, along with 3 meetings for the Graduate School Dean's search, plus one emergency meeting that was held during the year, this means that the Council met on 16 separate occasions, along with the use of several "electronic meetings" that were conducted by email vote. With this in mind, it is clear that this committee is willing and able to meet and conduct business in a fluid and rapid fashion so that university operations are no impaired.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Hanser  
Chair, Graduate Council