#### MINUTES

# Graduate Studies Executive Committee Tuesday, November 1, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

# Provost's Conference Room, Derryberry Hall, Room 200

### REDACTED FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

#### **Members Present**

Dr. Burduck – Chair Dr. Hayden Mattingly

Dr. Alice Camuti Dr. Tony Michael

Dr. Dan Combs Dr. Allan Mills

Dr. William Eberle Dr. Thomas Payne

Dr. Mike Gotcher Dr. Julie Pharr

Dr. Kimberly Hanna Dr. Darron Smith

Dr. Samantha Hutson Dr. Jeremy Wendt

Dr. Steve Isbell Dr. Lisa Zagumny

Dr. Rachel Hall for Dr. Jared Dr. Mark Stephens – Executive Officer

#### Members Absent

Mr. Tymothy Brandel Dr. Sharon Holderman (non-voting) Dr. Bedelia Russell (non-voting)

Ms. Rachel Craighead Dr. Joseph Ojo Dr. Joseph Slater

Mr. Joshua Gordon Dr. Michael Phillips Dr. John Zhu

#### Other Attendees

Andrew Bleignier Charlie Wilkerson

#### 1. Approval of the agenda.

Motion to approve the agenda: Dr. Zagumny

Seconded by: Dr. Wendt

**Comments/Amendments:** Dr. Gotcher requested that Item 3 be withdrawn.

(Request from the Communication Department for course additions – JOUR 6820,

JOUR 6840, and JOUR 6870.)

## **Friendly Amendment** to remove Item 3.

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by: All; Opposed by: None.

2. Approval of the minutes from the October 4, 2022.

Motion to approve the minutes: Dr. Smith

**Seconded by:** Dr. Wendt

**Comments/Amendments:** None.

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by: All; Opposed by: None.

3. Request from the Communication Department for course additions – JOUR 6820, JOUR 6840, and JOUR 6870.

Item withdrawn.

4. Request from the Department of Curriculum and Instruction for course additions – HRED 7150 and HRED 7250.

Motion to approve: Dr. Zagumny

Seconded by: Dr. Wendt

**Comments/Amendments:** Dr. Wendt stated the College of Education is in the midst of seeking approval for the PhD in Higher Education. HRED 7150 and HRED 7250 are courses that are needed and will also be used with the current PhD program.

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by: All; Opposed by: None.

5. Request from the Department of Computer Science for changes to graduate admissions.

Motion to approve: Dr. Zagumny

**Seconded by:** Dr. Wendt

**Comments/Amendments:** Dr. Eberle stated that currently a GRE is required. The GRE is only being used for the verbal score and the quantitative comes from looking at transcripts. GRE quantitative scores are well above the minimum. The main concerns are the ability to write and speak in English. Dr. Eberle stated the department wants to change it so that a GRE score is not required for applicants if their undergraduate or

Master's degree is from a U.S.-based institution. The TOEFL and IELTS scores need to be updated for international students. A score of at least 79 on the TOEFL or a minimum base score of 6.5 on the IELTS.

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by: All; Opposed by: None.

6. Request from Enrollment Management for Policy 247 – International Health Insurance.

Motion to approve: Dr. Zagumny

**Seconded by**: Dr. Wendt

**Comments/Amendments:** Mr. Bleignier stated the International Health Insurance requirement needed to be formalized. The heath insurance requirement has been enforced yet there was not a policy on it. Mr. Wilkerson stated TBR had a policy, but since Tech is longer TBR a policy needed to be in place.

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by: All; Opposed by: None.

7. Request from the College of Graduate Studies to update Policy 271 – General Graduate Degree Requirements.

Motion to approve: Dr. Zagumny

Seconded by: Dr. Wendt

Comments/Amendments: Dr. Stephens stated there are several changes and after the SACSCOC fifth year interim report changes need to be made. Dr. Stephens stated a lot of the changes are already being done, but need to be in writing. SACSCOC 9.2 states all masters degrees require a minimum of 30 credits hours and this needed to be in writing. SACSCOC 9.5 also needed to be added. In accordance with SACSCOC 9.5, the department will determine the minimum number of credit hours for a graduate or a post-baccalaureate professional degree earned through instruction offered by the institution awarding the degree.

Dr. Stephens stated there are several editorial changes throughout.

Dr. Stephens stated the course validation process needed to be updated. Currently, when a course exceeds the time limit at Tech, the courses at Tech must be validated, but other schools do not need to be validated. The process needs to be streamlined. It will be up to faculty in the program to see if it is current. If the course is from another college, it would need to be verified by the home department. The course validation fee is being removed.

Dr. Zagumny asked if the term, Degree Works, could be changed because if Degree Works ever changed it would then need to be changed in the policy. Dr. Eberle stated he does not prefer to have software named in the policy because it changes. Dr. Camuti stated Degree Works is only in the definitions. Dr. Eberle asked if the definition of Degree Works could be removed.

**Friendly amendment:** Remove the definition of Degree Works.

Dr. Eberle asked if a PhD is 48 hours then only 16 hours needs to be from Tech. Dr. Stephens stated that is the SACSCOC requirement, but it is up to the department to decide.

Dr. Mattingly stated he had a question about validation and the home department. Dr. Mattingly asked is it the home department of the student or where the courses are offered. Dr. Stephens stated it is where the course is offered. Dr. Mattingly asked if "where the course is offered" can be added.

**Friendly amendment:** Addition to M.9 to add where the course is offered. "TTU courses will be reviewed for current content at the home department where the course is offered."

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by: All; Opposed by: None.

- 8. Informational Items: None.
- 9. Other Matters: None.
- 10. Adjourn

Motion to approve: Dr. Zagumny

Seconded by: Dr. Wendt

Comments/Amendments: None.

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by: All; Opposed by: None.

Submitted by:

College of Graduate Studies