

GRADUATE DEANS' GROUP
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2007, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
4th FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, ANDY HOLT TOWER

Attending: Mary E. Papke (Chair), Mary Albrecht, Tammy Barnhart, Tom George, Carolyn R. Hodges, Mike Ickowitz, Jan Lee, Mohanan M.K., Sally McMillan, Buddy Moore, Matthew Murray, Masood Parang, Linda Phillips, Kay Reed, Roy Schulz, Jennifer Spirko, Eddie Woodruff.

The Graduate Deans' Group was called to order at 2:00 p.m. - Mary E. Papke, Chair.

1. Introductions

Papke introduced Dr. Carolyn R. Hodges, the new Dean of the Graduate School, and Jennifer W. Spirko, the new Thesis/Dissertation Consultant of the Graduate School, to the Graduate Deans' Group.

2. Position Title / Description for Graduate Program Director / Coordinator

Papke presented a proposal for a definition of Graduate Program Director. The Graduate School's goal is to move closer to the practices described in the Organization and Administration of Graduate Education published by the Council of Graduate Schools.

The group voted to endorse this proposal and send it forward to the Academic Policy Committee. The group also endorsed deleting the title and description of Graduate Liaison.

3. Dean Carolyn R. Hodges - Visions for the Graduate School

Dr. Hodges will be working in conjunction with Dr. Robert Holub, Vice Provost, and the Graduate Council in developing further the organization and profile of the Graduate School:

- Enhancing the University of Tennessee's Graduate School's programs;
- Increasing funding opportunities by providing a greater number of stipends and fellowships to attract a larger, more diverse graduate student population;
- Locating the Graduate School on the first floor of the Graduate Student Services building. This location will provide a better and more welcoming home for the Graduate School (space for increased staffing and resources for the graduate student population);
- Identifying further funding resources with the goal of providing assistance to our doctoral students through external funding;

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- Working closely with the Deans' Colloquy, the Best Practices in Teaching Program (BPIT), and with the Graduate and International Admissions office to forge good relations.
- Developing recruitment to be a top priority for further enhancement of Graduate School. The issue of developing joint programs with other universities will be closely evaluated. Dr. Papke will look into this on-going concern and report back to the Graduate Deans' Group.

4. Announcements

- Dr. Robert Holub, Provost, will visit with the Graduate Deans' Group at the next meeting, Thursday, April 5, 2007, 2:00 – 3:15 p.m., in the 4th Floor Conference Room, Andy Holt Tower.
- The Graduate Coordinators' / Directors' Meeting will be held February 21, 2007, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m., in the University Center, Shiloh Room. Faculty, departmental contacts, and support staff are encouraged to participate.