

DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRADUATE ASSEMBLY
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
November 12, 2008
Agenda

The second meeting of the Graduate Assembly for the 2008-2009 academic year will be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2008, at 2:15 PM in the Harry Ransom Center, Tom Lea Room, 3.206.

Order of Business

- I. Approval of the minutes of the September 17, 2008 meeting
- II. Report of the Graduate Dean (Victoria Rodríguez)
- III. Report of Chair (Sue Heinzelman)
- IV. Academic Committee (Paula Murray)
 - A. Proposal for a Graduate Portfolio Program in Molecular Biophysics (pending)
 - B. Proposal to change (1) the Master of Arts in Kinesiology to Master of Science in Kinesiology and (2) the Master of Arts in Health Education to Master of Science in Health Education (pending)
 - C. Review of the Option III program in Engineering Management (report only)
- V. Administrative Committee (Alan Cline)
- VI. Admissions and Enrollment Committee (Harry Cleaver)
- VII. Graduate Student Assembly (Bradley Carpenter/Katherine Haenschen)
- VIII. Adjournment

Proposal for a Graduate Portfolio Program in Molecular Biophysics

Prepared by: Ron Elber, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Institute of Computational Engineering and Sciences, 1 University Station C0200, Austin, Texas 78712
ACES 4.422, ron@ices.utexas.edu, 232-5415

Program Summary

Rationale for the portfolio program: Molecular biophysics is a cross-disciplinary science that strives to understand life-science phenomena using quantitative experiments and theory adapted from the physical sciences. The field of molecular biophysics brings together scientists from biology, biomedical engineering, chemical engineering, chemistry and biochemistry, pharmacy, physics, mathematics, and computer science. Typical research topics in biophysics include: structure, assembly, and function of biological macromolecules; transport phenomena; signaling; and mechanics of cells. These investigations are closely integrated with multi-scale modeling of spatial and temporal scales within cellular environments.

The goal of the portfolio is to train students to carry out research in this interdisciplinary field, and to facilitate collaboration across campus between relevant departments with different strengths in molecular biophysics. The seminar series is currently funded by discretionary money. We plan to apply for a training grant after the program is initiated and sufficient supporting data has been accumulated.

Program admission: The student's advisor will sign a prepared form indicating that the candidate is in good standing in his department at UT and is recommended for the program. The advisor must be a member of the portfolio. An admission committee will consider all applications.

Requirements: Students will be required to take four courses. One of the courses must be Statistical Mechanics at the graduate level. A second course is a graduate level course in Cellular and Molecular Biology. A third course is a seminar series in Biophysics. Because of the spread of the Portfolio on several departments the seminar is an essential and unifying component of the program. It will run continuously throughout the academic year. External and local speakers will give lectures in the Biophysics Seminar. The students will be required to attend the seminar for credit over 3 semesters. The last requirement is the selection of one course from a prepared list. The students will present one research seminar towards the completion of their PhD thesis. The seminar can be either in the weekly Biophysics Seminar series or during an annual meeting of biophysics at UT. Seminars for the annual meeting will be chosen competitively.

Expected enrollment: The expected enrollment is about 15-30 students. This estimate is based on an average of 1-2 students of about 15 participating faculty members of the portfolio. Funding for the students will come initially from the resources of their advisor. We hope to have a training grant operational by the third year of the portfolio program.

A complete copy of the proposal is available in the Office of Graduate Studies. Contact Tom Belinoski, Assistant Dean, at belinoski@mail.utexas.edu or 232-3607 for additional information.

NAME OF INSTITUTION

The University of Texas at Austin

PROPOSED NONSUBSTANTIVE CHANGE OF
THE MASTER'S DEGREE TITLE

FROM: MASTER OF ARTS

TO: MASTER OF SCIENCE IN KINESIOLOGY

Display how proposed title change would appear on the Coordinating Board program inventory, include Texas CIP code designation.

**Master of Science in Kinesiology (MS Kinesiology)
with a major in Kinesiology**

CIP: 31.0505.0014.010

How would name of title appear on student diplomas?

Master of Science in Kinesiology

How would name of title and program appear on student transcripts?

**Degree: Master of Science in Kinesiology
Major: Kinesiology**

Administrative unit responsible for the program: **The Department of Kinesiology & Health Education**

Proposed date for implementation of changes: **Fall semester, 2009**

Person to be contacted for further information about proposed changes:

Name: **John B. Bartholomew, Ph.D.** Title: **Chair, Graduate Studies Committee**
The Department of Kinesiology & Health Education
The University of Texas at Austin
1 University Station D3700
Austin, TX 78712

Phone: **(512) 232-6015**

FAX: **(512) 471-8914**

Signatures:

Steven W. Leslie
Executive Vice President and Provost

Date

David B. Prior
Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
The University of Texas System

Date

Governing Board approval date: _____

NAME OF INSTITUTION

The University of Texas at Austin

PROPOSED NONSUBSTANTIVE CHANGE OF
THE MASTER'S DEGREE TITLE

FROM: MASTER OF ARTS

TO: MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH EDUCATION

Display how proposed title change would appear on the Coordinating Board program inventory, include Texas CIP code designation.

**Master of Science in Health Education (MS Health Education)
with a major in Health Education**

CIP: 51.2207.0014.010

How would name of title appear on student diplomas?

Master of Science in Health Education

How would name of title and program appear on student transcripts?

**Degree: Master of Science in Health Education
Major: Health Education**

Administrative unit responsible for the program: **The Department of Kinesiology & Health Education**

Proposed date for implementation of changes: **Fall semester, 2009**

Person to be contacted for further information about proposed changes:

Name: **John B. Bartholomew, Ph.D.** Title: **Chair, Graduate Studies Committee**
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