

Graduate Council of Faculty Senate : Report for Senate Meeting April, 3, 2017

I bring the minutes from Graduate Council for meeting held on February 2, 2017.

http://trace.tennessee.edu/utk_gcminutes/90/These minutes were approved by the council membership at our recent meeting on March 23, 2017. At that meeting the main topic was presented from Dean Thompson regarding dealing with plagiarism in Graduate students theses/dissertations.

The minutes from March 23 meeting are also attached, but have not yet been approved by GC. "Graduate Council Minutes - March 23, 2017" (2017). *Graduate Council Minutes*.

http://trace.tennessee.edu/utk_gcminutes/91. The main topics were the previous issue and a new topic that had been requested: the need for/ policy of/for the GC credentialing committee.

As the Senate is aware, the major topic of interest for both meetings was the proposed policy for safeguarding/monitoring for plagiarism in Graduate students theses/dissertations. The wording of the policy statement as it was presented on February 2 , was discussed without a vote, but was circulated for discussion.

The proposed policy was considered and discussed by the Academic Policy Committee of the GC at their meeting , and approved with a few edits. The policy wording from APC was presented to the full GC on March 23rd. At both meetings, Robert Nobles from UT Office of Research was available to discuss the necessity, the possible ramifications to graduates and faculty of such violations, and that indeed his office has been dealing with some cases that have actually resulted in revocation of degrees as a result.

APC presented the policy to the group as a whole, and the discussion at that point became more focused on procedures within the departments. Some examples from departments already using iThenticate® the software. Ultimately the question was called and a hand show vote was called for. The policy statement was approved.

There is one more meeting this year.