

College of Business Administration Graduate Committee

Meeting Minutes for 3 Oct, 2005

Meeting called to order. *Attendees:* Drs. Kogut, Wall, Short, Li, Barnett, Jones and Miguel Perez.

Dr. Kogut asks to approve minutes of last meeting. Dr. Short makes a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting, Dr. Wall seconds the motion and the motion is approved unanimously by the committee.

The committee discusses the review of admissions formulas from comparable graduate programs identified during the last meeting. The consensus of the committee is that the standards for admissions to the graduate business program were somewhat out of line with our peer institutions.

The issue of how to calculate the admission GPA is reopened. The specific issue revolves around examining the last 60 hours of an applicants course work in the event that their overall GPA does not meet the criteria established by the Graduate School. The committee would like to propose this additional review criterion to Dr. Eaton of the Graduate School. The issue of the quality of the last 60 hours is raised by Drs. Wall, Short, and Jones. Students could back load their programs of work with lower level courses to boost the last 60 hour GPA.

Mr. Perez moves that the new entrance criterion focus on the last 60 hours used towards the degree awarded and that a formula score of 1050 be set for admissions using the GPA from the last 60 hours. This will bring ULM admissions requirements more in line with our peer institutions. Dr. Short seconds the motion. Dr. Kogut calls for a vote on the motion and it is carried.

The new admission requirements that will be recommended by the committee are: **GPA 2.5, GMAT 450, Formula 1000 (total GPA) or 1050 with last 60 hours**

The committee reviews the ETS Major Skills exam results. The MBA program at ULM appears very close to the standards set by AACSB. Coverage of Ethics in the curriculum seems to be the only major shortfall. Further review of the standards is suggested. Dr. Jones asks about arrangements for exam.

The marketability of the ULM MBA program is discussed by the committee along two major lines. The first of these was a brief discussion of the impact of losing assistantships on efforts to recruit foreign students. The second line of discussion focused on the marketability of the ULM MBA program outside the surrounding area. Dr. Jones suggests that the college should look at reorganizing semesters similar to Central Arkansas University. That school shortens the overall semester by making the classes longer in duration. Dr. Wall describes the potential use of mini-semesters to

make the program more marketable outside of the immediate Monroe area. The use of a self study approach for some classes by Tennessee Tech was also discussed.

The meeting was adjourned by Dr. Kogut.