



Donnie Snider <dc303b@acu.edu>

GST voting privileges on graduate council

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To: "Dr. Susan Lewis" <lewiss@acu.edu>, "Dr. Donnie Snider" <dc303b@acu.edu>, "Dr. Ken Cukrowski"

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Cc: "Dr. Lynette Sharp Penya" <penyal@acu.edu>

Donnie and Susan,

As I've noted in person, Lynette and I were discussing GST's voting on Graduate Council. I do not want to change that practice and policy except for matters that pertain to catalog and graduate school policy that the GST is subject to. For example, yesterday's conversation about probation and suspensions affects GST directly.

The policy is in the Faculty Handbook as copied below. The policy was probably implemented in 1997, 1998, or 1999 as we were preparing for ATS accreditation in 2000.

I'm in no hurry about all this and the fall gives us the space to do things with discernment. Also, I cannot imagine a scenario where I would vote against what the larger graduate faculty would discern on these type matters. Additionally, I have appreciated that Graduate Council has always let me voice my opinion with hospitality.

I would read the following as "no policy change needed" since it specifies "curricular" as the boundary. I would advocate then for a change in practice that other items brought before the council that are not curricular in nature, e.g., catalog changes to policy, we are allowed to vote.

If my read is correct, it might be as simple as a clarification to Graduate Council of existing policy.

Graduate School of Theology

In accordance with requirements of the Association of Theological Schools, the Graduate School of Theology addresses curricular changes including the creation of programs through a process outside the University Graduate Council. The dean of the College of Biblical Studies, Provost, President, and Board of Trustees oversee a parallel approval process that is facilitated by faculty within the School. The Graduate Council serves only to inform and advise the process when required.

Peace,
Tim

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