

**Graduate Council AY13 Annual Report to the University Senate
April 30, 2013**

The Graduate Council is a faculty representative body that advises the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (OGPS) and the Provost on issues related to graduate education. According to its constitution, the Graduate Council is required to report to the University Senate once per year on its activities. This report fulfills that requirement.

The Graduate Council met four times during the 2012-13 Academic Year. In addition to discussing a number of issues related to graduate education, it accomplished the following major tasks.

- Reviewed and approved a new MS program in Microbiology in the School of Medicine.
- Reviewed and approved the Electronic Dissertation, and Graduate Student Health Insurance Subsidy policies (copies attached).
- Reviewed and approved two certificate programs in Technology Commercialization and Trauma Focused School Psychology.
- Oversaw the first set of PhD program reviews to be completed over the next five years. PhD programs in Biomedical Engineering, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Mathematics, and Physics submitted self-study documents and were reviewed by an external panel of experts from peer institutions. The Graduate Council met with the External Review Team in March and provided feedback to the Provost on the PhD External Review Team's Final Report. Participating departments and the dean will receive copies of their reports and the recommendations of the Graduate Council.

Minutes of the Graduate Council meetings and copies of the approved policies and procedures outlined above are posted on the OGPS website at <http://tulane.edu/ogps>.