Graduate Council  
Mississippi State University

Number: 1
Date: August 27, 2010


Absent: J. Goodin, P. Bonfanti, D. Lewis, M. Millea, W. Person, D. Seale, W. Schilling

1. Dr. Juan Silva introduced himself and welcomed all Graduate Council members and guests. He asked for introductions around the table.

2. Dr. Silva asked for revisions to the minutes (May 7, 2010).

   Motion was made by Dr. Burnette Hamil and seconded by Dr. Dwayne Wise to accept the minutes.

   Minutes were approved.

3. University Committee on Courses and Curricula (UCCC)

   Dr. Angie Bourgeois stated that the UCCC has not met yet and therefore has no report.

4. Report from the Office of the Graduate School (OGS)

   Dr. D’Abramo presented the following report:

   • **Graduate School Enrollment**
     The unofficial count for fall 2010 enrollment of graduate students is 3,776. This is an all-time high, exceedingly last year’s all-time high of 3,680. It represents a 2.6 % increase.

   • **Applications to Graduate School**
     For the academic year of 2009-2010 (fall, 2009 through August 24, 2010) a total of 5,116 applications were received. A total of 2,775 students were admitted (54 %). The number of applications was up by 10 % and the number of students admitted increased by 5.7 %.

   • **Future Workshops/Receptions/Events of Interest**
     The Office of the Graduate School and the Bagley College of Engineering will jointly host a NSF Graduate Fellowship Informational Workshop on Thursday, September 2, from 2:00pm to 4:00 pm in Allen Hall, room 255.
The Office of the Graduate School and the Alliance for Graduate Education in Mississippi (AGEM) will host two workshops and a reception for undergraduate (IMAGE) students and for AGEM Scholars that were admitted and enrolled as new graduate students for the spring, summer, and fall 2010. The reception is scheduled for Wednesday, September 8, 2010, from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm. Dr. Howard G. Adams will conduct the workshops on Wednesday from 2:00 pm to 3:15 pm with the undergraduate students and from 3:30 – 5:00 PM for graduate students, followed by the AGEM reception. All activities will take place at the Colvard Student Union. On Thursday, Dr. Adams will conduct individual sessions with some of our AGEM Scholars.

The Office of the Graduate School, in conjunction with the Institute of International Education (IIE), hosted a fall Fulbright Information Workshop to inform undergraduate, graduating seniors, and graduate students about fellowship and scholarship opportunities on Wednesday, August 25, 2010 from, 2:00 – 4:00 PM in Mitchell Memorial – John Grisham Room. Two Fulbright Ambassadors from IIE provided students with pertinent information to support and enhance graduate and undergraduate education. We had 18 students to attend the workshop.

- **International Teaching Assistant (ITA) and Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA) Workshops; Classroom Certification**
  
  International Teaching Assistant Workshop, General Teaching Assistant Workshop and Microteaching Simulation/Classroom Certification Evaluation--- were held prior to the beginning of the fall semester. A total of 206 students participated among the three program components, setting a new record for the largest group of first-time GTAs participating in the program. A total of 61 graduate students participated in the International TA Workshop, held August 2-6, 2010; 58 of the 61 (95%) passed the Classroom English evaluation to advance to the GTA workshop. The 3 students who failed the Classroom English evaluation are required to enroll in ESL 5313 this semester and will participate in the Classroom English evaluation again in December. 189 graduate students who participated in the General Teaching Assistant Workshop numbered 189 and it was held August 9 and 10, 2010. There was a 100% pass rate and GTA1 certification for the 189 participants. For those students who participated in the Microteaching Simulation/Evaluation for Classroom Certification component of the workshop, 151 of the 163 participants (almost 93 %) achieved a GTA2 / GTA3 level assistantship appointment. The 12 students who were not successful in obtaining Classroom Certification fulfilled all requirements for GTA1 certification. These students may participate in the next Microteaching Simulation/Evaluation for Classroom Certification component scheduled for the afternoon of January 4, 2011, in McCool Hall.

The OGS sincerely appreciates all faculty and staff volunteers who were essential in providing a meaningful learning experience for the new GTAs. A total of 46 faculty and staff contributed to the success of the program as session presenters during the ITA or GTA Workshops (20 total) or evaluators for Classroom English Certification and/or Classroom Certification on August 10th (26 total). The OGS could not fulfill its role in ensuring quality education for MSU undergraduate students without the continued support and assistance from the faculty and staff volunteers.
The OGS will begin sending out requests in September seeking faculty volunteers to serve as evaluators during the afternoon of January 4, 2011, for the Microteaching Simulation/Classroom Certification evaluation that immediately follows the Graduate Teaching Assistant Workshop on January 3rd and 4th.

- **Graduate Assistantships**
  There are a total of 1,068 assistantships for the fall, 2010 semester: 571 (53.5%) research, 355 (33.2%) teaching, and 142 (13.3%) service.

- **Graduate Student Orientation**
  We had approximately 215 new graduate students attend orientation on the afternoon of August 17th. The OGS plans to further evaluate the information provided to new graduate students during future orientations in an effort to promote academic success and equip all graduate students with the tools and knowledge of policies/procedures needed for successful matriculation in completing their graduate programs.

- **Travel Assistance Grants for Graduate Students (TAGGS)**
  The OGS began accepting applications from graduate students for Travel Assistance Grants for Graduate Students (TAGGS) program on August 16, 2010. The TAGGS program, inaugurated in fall 2009, provides funding up to $1,500 to the graduate students, preferably Ph.D.s, selected as award recipients who will give a paper/poster presentation at national or international meetings. The OGS has already received 19 applications, requesting a combined total of $21,500. Requests will be accepted and reviewed until all available funds have been awarded for this TAGGS funding cycle.

- **Recruitment**
  The OGS will continue the recruiting efforts inaugurated last fall by attending regional recruitment fairs in the states from which most of our graduates come: MS, AL, TN, LA, and GA. Students who express interest in attending MSU for graduate study by providing contact details at fairs will be tracked for the next 3-5 years to collect data on those who apply and enroll at MSU. Julie Goodin, Program Coordinator, will begin participation in a series of recruitment fairs for graduate study at different universities during late September, October, and early November. The locations are the University of Alabama, the University of Georgia, Centenary College, the University of Memphis, and the University of Southern Mississippi. It’s a small effort but it is face-to-face recruiting and benefits of this approach are still under investigation.

- **Bulletin of the Graduate School**
  The 2010/2011 Bulletin of the Graduate School is now available online in PDF format. Print and CD copies should be available around September 15. The closure of Printing Services compelled us to seek an outside contractor, ProGraphics, for the printing service.

  Each Bulletin of the Graduate School, from 2004/2005 through 2009/2010, the last six years, is archived and located on the OGS Web site.
• **Graduate Recruitment Assistance Grants (GRAGs)**
  We plan to send out a call for proposals for Graduate Recruitment Assistance Grants (GRAGs) on September 24, 2010. The deadline for submission will be October 29. A total of $15,000 of funds is available ($1,500 to $2,000 per grant) and strategies that involve departmental cost sharing are preferred. Contact Karin Lee for details about this next GRAG cycle.

• **Graduate Student Ambassadors for the 2009-2010 academic year**
  Graduate Ambassadors for the 2009-2010 academic years were contacted to determine the value/benefit of this program. A total of around 95 emails from prospective graduate students and distributed among 5 colleges were received by our graduate student ambassadors. Departments have cooperated and provided replacements for those graduate ambassadors who have graduated.

• **Dismissal Appeals**
  Drs. Wise, (Chairperson), David Monts, and Lara Dodds agreed to serve as a subcommittee of the Graduate Council earlier this month to consider appeals of academic status by two students in the College of Education. Special thanks are extended to the subcommittee for their timely consideration of these appeals and report to the academic dean.

• **Corporate Funding of Graduate Assistantships**
  The Office of the Graduate School has partnered with Verizon Wireless to create a Fellowship/Assistantship (VW-GRAP) for the academic year 2010-2011, effective August 16, 2010 through August 15, 2011. The primary purpose of this award is support the graduate research of a highly qualified graduate student at MSU in the area of domestic/family violence. Additional support for more assistantships is anticipated if the pilot assistantship is found to be a success.

• **NSF Graduate Fellowship Recipients**
  In April 2010, it was reported to the Graduate Council that Ratesseaia Lee Lett was one of the 2000 recipients of the National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship Award for 2010 and Mr. Bradley G. Reaves received honorable mention. Thereafter, Mr. Reaves was also named as a recipient of the award. Both of these students are enrolled in the doctoral program in the Bagley College of Engineering and each will receive a three-year award totaling $121,500.

5. **Report from Graduate Student Association (GSA)**

  GSA President Luke Fowler presented the following report:

  The GSA Vice-President and President spoke to fellow graduate students during the TA Workshop and the Graduate Student Orientation which is a much appreciated opportunity to get more graduate students involved. GSA will hold its first meeting on August 31 and Provost Dr. Gilbert has been invited as guest speaker. GSA is planning for the next Graduate Research Symposium, updating the GSA website and creating a Facebook account for the GSA to help with communication.
6. Old Business

a) Graduate Student Grievance Process (Subcommittee Report Dr. Dooley) (Handout)

Grievance Subcommittee Chair Dr. Kathy Dooley presented another draft of the Graduate Student Grievance Policy.

Dr. Dooley stated that a few people send comments and that she incorporated all suggestions in the document now before the Graduate Council. The actual grievance procedures in the second part of the document need to be reviewed again by Graduate Council as no comments had been received on this portion. She asked for specific feedback to the procedure.

Discussion followed. Dr. D’Abramo asked that the proposed composition of the Grievance Panel be included in the document.

An electronic version of the draft document will be disseminated via email.

b) Automatic Dismissal of Graduate Students

This topic was tabled at the last Graduate Council meeting. Dr. Wise made a motion to untable this topic, seconded by Dr. Hamil. Graduate Council untabled the topic and resumed discussion.

Dr. D’Abramo indicated that Dr. Peter Ryan introduced this topic during the last Graduate Council meeting. Dr. Ryan had assumed that student who received a third grade of C or lower would be automatically dismissed but current policy leaves the initiation of dismissal procedures up to the specific department.

Discussion followed. It was determined that this issue should be reviewed by a Graduate Council Subcommittee and Dr. Silva asked for volunteers to serve. Dr. Dwayne Wise agreed to chair the committee while Drs. Allen and Monts agreed to serve on the committee as members. Dr. Wise asked Dr. Ryan to participate as well.

7. New Business

a) Non-thesis vs. Thesis Masters

Dr. Silva stated that a student in a Master’s of Science degree program will earn a Master’s of Science degree whether they do a thesis or choose the non-thesis option. Should there be a distinction?

Dr. Silva will poll Graduate Coordinators about this issue and bring it back to Graduate Council.

b) Deadlines for Submitting Proposals to Graduate Council
Dr. Silva requested that new graduate degree proposals, including AOCE approvals, be submitted to Graduate Council one month in advance for ample review by Graduate Council.

c) TOEFL Policy (Handout)

Dr. D’Abramo explained the current graduate policy states that “Any higher test score subsequently submitted will not waive any of the ESL requirements imposed as a result of the official (original) test score under which the student is admitted” (pp. 43-44, 2010-2011) which disappointed several graduate students and their departments.

Dr. D’Abramo proposed a modification to the current policy which would allow a little more flexibility for the students. The proposed modification reads “A total of two TOEFL scores will be accepted per application that is submitted by a student for admission into a particular graduate program. The higher score will be the valid score for consideration of whether or not the student will be required to take ESL courses.”

Discussion followed. Dr. Monts pointed out that MSU currently accepts the IELTS and suggested that the policy be amended to say “TOEFL, IELTS and other equivalent.”

Dr. D’Abramo will poll Graduate Coordinators about this issue and bring it back to Graduate Council.

d) Announcement from the Library (Handout)

Dr. Harry Llull from the Mitchell Memorial Library informed Graduate Council members that the library will be utilizing a new database that will help tremendously in serving faculty and staff. The database is called Scopus and it covers 18,000 journals, goes back further in archives than the previous database, and it costs less.

Dr. Llull asked Graduate Council members to review the new database and provide comments at http://library.msstate.edu/content/templates/level2-potlight.aspx?articleid=2028&zoneid=408

e) Graduate Dean’s signature on diploma

Dr. D’Abramo stated that he had inquiries from a number of graduate students expressed their desire to have the signature of the Graduate School Dean on their diplomas, along the dean of their respective college. In the past, diplomas were signed by then Graduate Dean Koshel but restructuring to a decentralized organization left the Graduate School without a dean for a number of years and the signature was no longer included on graduate diplomas.

Dr. Russell Carr made a motion to change the signature on graduate degrees from the academic dean to the Dean of the Graduate School. Dr. Kathy Dooley seconded the motion.

Graduate Council members discussed how many signatures should show on the diploma and determined that the Graduate School Dean’s and the Academic Dean’s signature would be
confusing. Since the Office of the Graduate School awards the degree, only the signature of
the Graduate Dean should be on the graduate diploma.

Graduate Council members voted and the motion was approved by acclamation. Three
Graduate Council members abstained.

Ms. Sharon Nobles stated that the Registrar’s Office will be glad to incorporate the change
for the next term.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

The date for the next Graduate Council meeting has been set for Friday, September 24, 2010, at
1:30 p.m. in 611 Allen Hall.
Draft of Graduate Student Grievance Policy

Submitted by Dr. Kathy Dooley (Chair), Ms. Beth Rauhaus, Dr. Radha Srinivasan and Dr. David Lewis

Introduction

Mississippi State University recognizes the importance of ensuring the welfare of its graduate students. When a situation arises in which a graduate student or group of graduate students believe that unfair, unprofessional, or inappropriate treatment/behavior has occurred relative to a faculty member or administrator will be made to respond to the allegation(s) expeditiously and justly.

Mississippi State University is a diverse academic environment dedicated to the advancement of knowledge, the development of future professionals, professors, and researchers. In accord with these concerns, this policy defines: 1) recommended good practices to prevent abuse of authority and responsibility that constitute harassment or discrimination and that prevent a graduate student’s satisfactory academic progress; and, 2) provide for all parties guidelines, practices, and grievance procedures to resolve issues using a recommended procedure. The purpose of this policy is to address those issues and regulations not governed by existing academic operating and/or employment policies applicable to graduate students.

As a public research university, Mississippi State University has graduate students who come from diverse backgrounds and over 75 countries. The University and its faculty are dedicated to the development of future professionals, educators and researchers in many fields. The purpose of this policy is to address those issues and regulations not governed by other existing academic operating procedures and/or employment policies applicable to graduate students. This policy provides: 1) recommended good practices to prevent abuse of authority and, 2) guidelines, practices, and grievance procedures to resolve issues.

Faculty members are obligated to: 1) “evaluate fairly and impartially [a] student’s work. Such evaluation should be consistent with recognized standards and must not be influenced by issues such as religion, race, sex, political views, or be based on the student’s agreement with the teacher’s opinion on controversial issues in the discipline; 2) protect the student’s freedom to learn, especially when that freedom is threatened by repressive or disruptive action; 3) serve as an intellectual guide and counselor to students, be available for private conferences, provide accurate information and assist students in achieving their academic goals; 4) demonstrate respect for the student and treat the faculty-student relationship with confidence; and, 5) avoid any exploitation of students for personal advantage…. especially those vulnerable to the faculty member’s authority (emphasis added).” (MSU Faculty Handbook)

The reasons for harassment/discrimination of graduate students may emerge from the behaviors and personality issues of a faculty member or administrator and/or the perceived and actual power

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*---This policy does not apply to graduate student grievances such as disputes over joint authorship of research, grade appeals, scientific misconduct, dismissal from graduate standing, placement on probationary status, denial of readmission, and other administrative or academic decisions that terminate or otherwise impede progress toward academic or professional degree goals.*
differential between faculty and graduate students. To mitigate the sources of abuse, it is essential that each department provide an academic environment that is supportive and accommodating to the needs of graduate students. The department should take immediate action to correct problems when instances of abuse of graduate students are identified. Faculty should minimize non-academic relationships that may constitute dual relationships with graduate students.

Problems between faculty, professional staff, or administrators and graduate students may emerge from behaviors and personality and/or the perceived and actual power differentials between faculty and graduate students. To mitigate the sources of conflict, it is essential that each department provide an academic environment that is supportive and accommodating to the needs of graduate students. The department should take immediate action to correct problems when instances of faculty and graduate student(s) problems are identified. Faculty should minimize non-academic relationships that may constitute dual relationships with graduate students.

A significant cause of grievances derives from both what is intended and how it is perceived. A single instance of minor misbehavior may not constitute abuse, but deliberate misbehavior (a behavior that persists after a verifiable request to stop) constitutes harassment. To ensure that there is no gap between intention and perception, the recipient of inappropriate behavior should inform the faculty or administrator about their discomfort or distress.

The actual as well as the perceived power differential between faculty and graduate students may be perceived as more crucial for international students than for domestic students. Insomuch as, the policy requires all parties to treat every graduate student equally, it should be noted that international students have a pronounced sensitivity to the power differential with faculty and administrators. This may be due to their lack of familiarity with the customs of the United States and/or specific customs of their country. International students who choose to study at Mississippi State University do not leave their cultural traditions or customs at home. It is not expected that every person be cognizant of those cultural traditions or customs, but once known a faculty member should respect them to insure a graduate student’s ability to make satisfactory progress toward graduation. Due to the additional burden of maintaining a student visa to remain at Mississippi State University, international students are more susceptible to the behaviors of faculty. The Office of the Graduate School and the University are aware of these circumstances for international graduate students and make efforts to address problems between international graduate students and faculty in such situations by coordinating with the international students’ office and other units of the University.

**Good Practices.** To increase positive interactions between graduate students and faculty:

1. The Graduate School will develop workshops for faculty and administrators that sensitize them to the specific needs and issues of graduate students.
2. Academic units will either develop their own or encourage attendance at workshops and conferences that encourage positive faculty-student relationships.
3. The Graduate School and graduate departments should distribute this grievance policy to faculty, administrators and graduate students during initial orientation.
4. Disciplinary action against erring faculty to deter future abuses.
5. Graduate school, other administrative officials, and the graduate grievance panel should meet with the department head where the violation took place about how to eliminate future abuses and improve the academic environment in the department.
Grievance Procedures

Two principles must be followed during the grievance procedure. The first is Preponderance of Evidence. If a graduate student believes that a faculty member or other person has acted inappropriately, then that graduate student must gather evidence that illustrates both the Deliberate Misbehavior of the faculty member and the graduate student’s reaction and response. This evidence may be in the form of an emails, letters, or other forms of written documentation. The second principle is Without Retaliation. At no time during the process, should a faculty member or other person take any form of action that could be considered retaliation against the graduate student who has put forth submitted the grievance.

Procedure

Procedure is defined as the process of resolution in which the graduate student contacts the faculty or administrator who has committed the violation grievance, and if needed additional personnel up to the level of the graduate student’s college dean to resolve the situation. The graduate student could also start this procedure with the Graduate School and/or with any other appropriate administrative unit of the university such as Human Resources, the Office of Diversity and Equity Programs, or any member of the graduate grievance panel.

Step 1. Contact the faculty member or administrator with whom the graduate student has the grievance. It is strongly recommended that the student to send an email or make contact in writing. In an informal meeting, the student should explain his or her position and ask the faculty member or administrator to stop cease engaging in the behavior(s) in question.

Step 2. If the behavior of the faculty or administrator who has committed the violation persists, then the graduate student should notify the department head of the faculty member or the immediate supervisor of the administrator. Provide him/her with a copy of the email or written correspondence noting the date of the request and ask them to question the faculty member or administrator arbitrate the matter. Ask the department head to notify you after he/she speaks with the faculty member or administrator who has committed the violation. Once you have heard from the department head, send a response to thank them for their action and to note the date of the conversation.

Step 3. If the behavior of the faculty or administrator who has committed the violation continues after the conversation intervention by with the department head or other administrator, or you are the student is not satisfied with the response from the department head, contact the Dean’s office and speak with the appropriate person in that office. Once you have met with the Dean about the grievance, send him/her a response to thank them for their action and to note the date of the conversation. If the student is not satisfied with these procedures he/she may ask for intervention by the Graduate School.
Written Complaint and Formal Investigation

Formal investigation is defined as the process of investigation wherein the Dean of the Graduate School convenes a review committee to investigate and recommend a resolution to the Provost, who will pronounce the final decision.

A formal investigation is convened when the graduate student submits a written complaint. The Graduate School will promptly designate a committee to investigate the complaint.

Responsibilities of the Investigating Committee

The person designated to investigate the allegation will inform the graduate student that:

1. The manner and frequency with which the graduate student will be updated about the status of the investigation.
2. The need for a high level of discretion during the investigatory process.
3. Ensure that there is no retaliation against the graduate student.

Normally within 5 working days of receipt of the assignment, the Investigating Committee will advise of and provide the faculty or administrator who is alleged to have committed the violation with:

1. The specific allegations and a copy of the written complaint.
2. The manner and frequency in which the faculty member or administrator will be updated about the status of the investigation.
3. The need for all parties to exercise a high level of discretion during the investigatory process and the University’s policy with respect to retaliation.
4. An opportunity to submit a written response to the complaint within 10 working days of notification of the complaint.

Investigation

1. The purpose of the investigation is to gather facts.
2. Depending upon the facts of the case, an investigation may range from a one-on-one conversation between the investigating committee and the two parties to an inquiry with multiple witness interviews. The investigating committee will produce a written finding of facts at the conclusion of the investigation.
3. The investigation committee decision shall be made on the "preponderance of evidence" standard. Any finding against an individual or department on the subject of grievance must be supported by a preponderance of the evidence.
4. Investigations should normally be completed within 45 calendar days from the date the complaint was first asserted. If this is not reasonably possible, the investigation committee should make the grievant and the faculty or administrator who is alleged to have committed the violation aware of the status of the review and provide an estimated conclusion date.
Submission of Investigative Report

Upon completion of the investigation, the investigation official shall submit the report to the Dean of the Graduate School. Upon receipt of the investigative report, the Dean of the Graduate School shall review the report and submit an initial determination to the provost that states that a violation of the policy either did or did not occur. If an initial determination is that a violation did occur, then the dean shall also submit an initial proposal to the provost stating what "prompt remedial action" the dean considers appropriate, including potential disciplinary action. The provost will make the final determination as to what actions, if any, be taken.

Notification of Decision and Appeal Process

Upon conclusion of the determination process, the complainant and respondent will receive a written copy of the decision. The faculty/administrator who is alleged to have committed the violation may appeal the decision in writing, within 10 working days, to the Provost. The appeal must be based on new facts not previously available, the sanction is arbitrarily harsh or capricious, or procedures were not followed that substantially affected the result. The Provost will render a final decision within 15 working days. This decision completes the university process.

General Advice to Graduate Students in Pursuing Grievance Procedure – Students are recommended to use their discretion in following these suggestions

1. The University provides counseling services which are a resource for all Mississippi State students when they have experienced stressful or difficult situations. Graduate students may wish to avail themselves of counseling services which are provided by the Student Counseling Services at 115C Hathorn Hall on Magruder Street. Student Counseling Services can be reached at 325-2091. Counseling services are provided without charge to registered Mississippi State students and communication with counselors is strictly confidential.

2. In the case of International Graduate Students, they are strongly advised to keep the International Student Office updated about the grievance.

3. Maintain a daily diary of events to ensure a chronological record is readily available and so that the student does not forget the sequence of events surrounding the grievance.

4. Change the major adviser if the current major adviser is the person against whom the grievance was lodged.

5. Keep copies of written communications that are involved in the grievance and any further communication from the faculty member or administrator against whom the grievance was lodged.
Appendix: Pertinent Contacts and Links

HRM Policy on Employee Conduct: http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/60401.html

Faculty Grievance Procedures: http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/1305.html

Code of Student Conduct: http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/91100.html


Dissent, Disruption, and Academic Freedom: http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/91109.html

Ethics in Research and Other Scholarly Activities: http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/8002.html

Extended Orientation for International Students: http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/91177.html

Academic Freedom: http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/1311.html

Grade Appeal and Academic Review Board: http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/1314.html

Harassment Training for Supervisors: http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/0304.html

Graduate Student Association: http://www.grad.msstate.edu/current/orgs/gsa/

International Admissions & Services: http://www.admissions.msstate.edu/international/

Ethics in Research and Other Scholarly Activities at MS: http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/8002.html
What does it cover?

Scopus is the largest abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed literature and quality web sources with smart tools to track, analyze and visualize research.

For an update on the new features and enhancements in Scopus, see Latest Features.

Updated daily, Scopus offers:

- Nearly 16,000 titles from more than 6,000 international publishers, including coverage of over 16,000 peer-reviewed journals (including Open Access journals)
- 600 trade publications
- 350 book series
- Extensive conference coverage (3.6 million conference papers)
- Over 40 million records, of which:
  - 20 million records going back to 1996 seeking to capture complete metadata (78% include references)
  - 20 million pre-1996 records captured without references going back as far as 1923.

Scopus also offers full integration of the scientific web in its search results, with:

- 35 million scientific web pages
- "Articles-In-Press" from over 3,000 journals
- Over 80 selected sources e.g. institutional repositories, digital archives and special subject collections made individually searchable via Selected Sources tab.

Scopus, designed by users for users, improves research productivity and effectiveness by offering, among other features:

- A simple and intuitive interface to quickly refine your results
- Seamless linking to full-text articles and other library resources
- Alerts, RSS and HTML feeds to stay up-to-date on new articles matching your search query
- Instant display of the abstract on result pages allowing for a quick 'relevance' check
- Author Identifier to distinguish between results from authors with the same name and to capture all results for an author whose name is recorded in different ways
- Citation Tracker to simply find, check and track citation data year by year and in real-time
- Journal Analyzer provides a quick insight into journal performance
- Authorship Identifier to automatically identify and match an organization with all its research output
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- Over 6 million additional cited references that are not covered by Scopus as such (e.g. books)
- "Articles-In-Press" from over 3,000 journals. These articles are available in Scopus prior to their official publication date, from Elsevier, Springer/Kluwer, Springer Nature, Elsevier, and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). The AIP articles from BioMed Central will be available shortly
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- To learn more about the content in Scopus including coverage, content processing, overlap with other databases, the Content Selection and Advisory Board and the pillars of Scopus content strategy, read the Scopus Content Coverage Guide and Julia Arnell's Assessment of Scopus Content & Coverage.
- Suggestions for additional sources are welcomed. Simply complete this form to suggest a title for inclusion.