The Graduate Committee consists of voting members Marie DeBoyrie (recording secretary), Phil Benson, Sherry Mills, Gerald Hampton, Ryan Cruz (student member), and Rick Adkisson (chair). Additionally, two non-voting members, MBA Director Bobbie Green and Associate Dean Kathy Brook sit on the committee.

Most activities of the fall 2008 semester were directed toward the continued development of assurance of learning (AOL) processes for the MBA program. Committee members assessed student writing and presentation skills and completed an assessment report based on the findings. The report was distributed to the faculty via e-mail. Additionally, substantial progress has been made on the AOL instruments to be used to assess critical thinking.

A dataset of student information is being gathered and analyzed. The main purpose is to find whether or not student performance in the MBA program has any relation to their conditions of admission.

A proposal to modify the MBA assurance of learning goals was developed. The purpose of the proposed modifications is largely to simplify the goals for AOL purposes by eliminating specific objectives from the goal statements. Two faculty votes were taken. One vote was conducted by paper ballot. A second vote was done electronically. In neither case did the number of ballots cast constitute a quorum so no changes were implemented.

**ACTION ITEM FOR CONVOCATION**

Vote on the MBA-AOL goal changes (see below).
The Graduate Committee recommends the following changes to the MBA assurance of learning goals. The rationale for the changes is provided below. If you have questions or comments, please contact your departmental representative on the committee (Sherry Mills, Maria DeBoyrie, Phil Benson, Gerald Hampton, Rick Adkisson).

The Graduate Committee recommends the deletion of the wording in Goals 1 and 2.

- Accept ☐ Reject ☐ Goal 1: Demonstrate well-developed oral and written communication skills. by producing high quality written work and making high quality oral presentations of said work.

- Accept ☐ Reject ☐ Goal 2: Demonstrate well-developed critical thinking skills. by completing a major business project requiring problem solving, decision making, and other analytical skills.

Rationale for changes in Goals 1 & 2 -- These changes will simplify the goal statement by removing references to the means of measurement. This adds flexibility to the assessment process.

The Graduate Committee recommends the removal of Goal 4.

- Accept ☐ Reject ☐ Goal 4: Demonstrate well-developed leadership skills.

Rationale for new goal -- We think this (rather than leadership) is more in line with AACSB guidelines and is defined broadly enough to allow a variety of measures to be implemented.

The Graduate Committee recommends that the following goal be adopted.

- Accept ☐ Reject ☐ Goal 4: Demonstrate well-developed interpersonal skills.

Rationale for new goal -- We think this (rather than leadership) is more in line with AACSB guidelines and is defined broadly enough to allow a variety of measures to be implemented.