



Graduate Council Meeting No. 556 October 2, 2023 via Zoom | Minutes

Council Members Present: Alessandra Adami, Ali Akanda, Patricia Crawford, Susan DeSanto-Madeya, Emilija Djurdjevic, Marta Gomez-Chiarri, Emmett Goods, Karen Morse, Showrov Rahman, Martha Rojas, David Rowley, Hans Saint-Eloi Cadely, Minsuk Shim

Council Members Absent: Araceli Bonifant, Jowusu Sarfo, Yang Shen, Angela Slitt, Ping Xu

Graduate School Present: Eric Beretta, Jessica Coyle, Brenton DeBoef, Corinne Kulesh, Cara Mitnick, Colleen Mouw

I. Call to order

★ *The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm by Dean Brenton DeBoef.*

II. Approval of Minutes - Meeting No. 555, September 11, 2023

★ *Motion to approve the minutes for meeting number 554*

- *Approved*
- *1 council member abstained*

III. Announcements

A. Hybrid Council Meeting - Tuesday, January 16th at Carothers 203, same Zoom link (*Slitt*)

1. Dean DeBoef announced that the January Graduate Council meeting will be a hybrid meeting, in-person and remote option. The in-person meeting will be held in the Dean's Conference Room in Carothers Library room 203.

B. Program Directors Meeting Recap (*DeBoef*)

1. April 15 Resolution
 - a) Director Kulesh stated that as a signatory institution with the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS), we are agreeing to uphold the April 15 Resolution which only applies to Fall admission offers with funding (i.g. assistantships, scholarships, fellowships) to allow students until April 15th to make an admission decision. In the past, College Engineering has expressed concerns about the length of the waiting period in which they could have offered more admission offers sooner. More and more programs are also expressing concerns each year. Director Kulesh led a discussion with the council on their thoughts of the April 15th resolution.
2. Housing & realistic expectations for international students
 - a) Dean DeBoef stated that Associate Dean Mouw is taking the lead in meeting with the new Housing Director to find a solution for graduate housing. The Graduate School was informed that renovations to Graduate Village are happening which would make 27 additional units available. The Graduate School is also looking into the possibility of changing the policies for Graduate Village to give priority housing to international students.
3. Flexibility between traditional and accelerated calendars
 - a) Dean DeBoef mentioned that there was a consensus from Program Directors to be able to create flexible programs or have students in both online and in-person programs or courses simultaneously. The Graduate School is in the process of figuring out how to make the online/in-person capability available and are in discussion with the registrar and financial aid offices to see if it can be possible.

- C. Professional Development (*Mitnick*)
1. Director Mitnick announced that the Graduate School and Research Office are running a Three-Minute Thesis Competition and provided the timeline of the competition and the upcoming informational sessions. Additional upcoming workshops include 'the Half-life Your Research Message! Distill Your Research and Craft Your Scholarly Communication', 'Preparation and Tips for Your Research/Job Talk', 'Improve Your Research Imagery! Create and Effective Slides', 'Create an Effective, and Concise Research Talk with Word Pictures!', and '3MT Script Design.' Director Mitnick shared information on the upcoming October Professional Development events.
- D. Applications & admission update (*Kulesh*)
1. Director Kulesh presented enrollment data as of 9/26/23 compared with Fall 2022. Overall, as of September 26th, there were 2,113 graduate students enrolled compared to 2,080 in Fall 2022. Fall 2023 did not meet the out-of-state target for the following reasons; ABD status length increased to four semesters and students are coded as Part-time in the enrollment data, despite increased new enrollment in Engineering and Nursing, the new enrollment did not compensate for the number of students who graduated, and despite a growth in applications and offers, without additional funding and April 15th resolution, did not yield students. Director Kulesh highlighted the programs that had Fall 2023 growth; online programs, specifically MPA and MLIS programs, Master of Music program doubled, MBA P/T, MS in INP, MA in English, MS in Computer Science, PhD in Computer & Statistical Science, DBA, PhD in Health Sciences, Ms in Nutrition & Food Sciences MS in Speech-Language Pathology, MA in TESOL, Biological and Environmental Sciences, PhD in Ocean Engineering, and HR/LR.
- E. Recent appointments to the Graduate Faculty (*Mouw*)
- Jie Shen, Adjunct, COP*
Anthony Marchese, Dean, COE
Dewayne A. Fox, Outside Scholar, CELS
Afua R Ansong, Tenure-track, CAS
Janet Kong-Chow, Tenure-track, CAS
Gary P. Richards, Outside Scholar, CELS
Peter Stempel, Adjunct, CELS
Szu-Yu (Zoe) Kao, Outside Scholar, COED
Kristy Lewis, Tenure-track, GSO
Isaac Agbemafle, Tenure-track, CHS
Irma Stevens, Tenure-track, CAS
Justin Pratt, Tenure-track, CAS

IV. New Business

- A. Revision to the Graduate School Manual, section 11.23
1. Proposed manual change to section 11.23 to include language that the Request to Schedule an Oral Defense of a Master's Thesis/Doctoral Dissertation form must now be submitted, previously the form was not required.
- ★ *Dr. Hans Saint-Eloi Cadely motioned to amend the proposed language*
 - *Approved*
 - ★ *Motion to approve the proposed language in section 11.23*
 - *Approved*
- B. Revision to the Graduate Manual, section 7.61
1. Proposed manual change to section 7.61 to allow students to take comprehensive exams during the summer term without having to register for courses, but must register if the student is defending a thesis or dissertation.
- ★ *Motion to approve the proposed language in section 7.61*
- C. Program Director roles discussion (*DeBoef*)
1. Dean DeBoef stated that Graduate Manual does not define the Program Director role. A discussion was led listing what the current duties and responsibilities are. Dean DeBoef will work with the Combined Council Committee to create language to define the Program Director role.

V. Graduate New Program & Tracks (Kuali Agenda) (DeBoef)

PROGRAMS CHANGES

COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL & LIFE SCIENCES:

Marine Affairs - PhD

- * Added MAF 1 credit PhD seminar course, MAF 650, to the list of required courses (to be taken twice)
 - * reduced number of total required credits from 66 to 64
 - * removed masters degree requirement for admission to program
 - * added qualifying exam requirement for students who do not come in with a masters
- ★ *Approved*

VI. Graduate Curriculum (Kuali Agenda) (Mouw)

COURSE CHANGES

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES:

HDF 572 | Traumatic Stress in Families

No longer temporary X course, graduate credit


(3 crs.) This course reviews information on psychological trauma and its impact on individuals and families. Responses to trauma, family stress theories, PTSD , and principles for working with trauma-exposed populations are covered. (Lec. 3)

★ *Approved*

VII. **Adjournment**

- ★ *Associate Dean Mouw asked for a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.*

Minutes approved by the Graduate Council on November 6, 2023



Brenton DeBoef, Dean of the Graduate School