



To: Members of the 2023-2024 Graduate Council

From: Angela Slitt, Chair  
Brenton Deboef, Dean  
Colleen Mouw, Associate Dean

Date: November 27, 2023

RE: Agenda for Meeting Number 558 of the Graduate Council to be held on Monday, November 27, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom

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- I. **Call to order**
- II. **Approval of Minutes - Meeting No. 557, November 6, 2023**
- III. **Conferral of December Graduate Degrees (Mouw)**
- IV. **Announcements**
  - A. Graduate School Fellowships and Scholarships (*Mouw*)
  - B. Professional Development (*Mitnick*)
  - C. Recent appointments to the Graduate Faculty (*Mouw*)  
*Manthena Varma, Outside Scholar, COP*  
*Mateja Nenadovic, Assistant Professor, CELS*  
*Lynn Taylor, Research Professor, COP*  
*Stephen Powers, Outside Scholar, COE*  
*Blair Johnson, Outside Scholar, CHS*  
*Laura Eme, Adjunct, CELS*  
*James Brau, Outside Scholar, COB*  
*Stephen Owne, Outside Scholar, COB*  
*Trenton Williams, Outside Scholar, COB*  
*Bethany Wilcox, Outside Scholar, CHS*
- V. **Graduate Curriculum (Kuali Agenda) (Mouw)**  
  
*NO CURRICULUM PROPOSALS AT THIS TIME*
- VI. **Graduate New Program & Tracks (Kuali Agenda) (DeBoef)**

#### PROGRAMS CHANGES

#### COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL & LIFE SCIENCES:

**TABLED** Environmental and Natural Resource Economics - PhD

Removing GRE requirement

Removing the GRE requirement for admission: Taking the GRE can be an impediment for some potential applicants to apply, given its cost and locations where the exam is held -- these problems can be especially acute

for international students. Removing the GRE requirement will allow more applicants to apply to our program. We aim for this change to be implemented in the 2023-24 admissions cycle.

**TABLED Environmental and Natural Resource Economics - MS course**

**Removing GRE req. and adding alt.**

(1) Removing the GRE requirement for admission: Taking the GRE can be an impediment for some potential applicants to apply, given its cost and locations where the exam is held -- these problems can be especially acute for international students. Removing the GRE requirement will allow more applicants to apply to our program. We aim for this change will be effective for the 2023-24 admission cycle (for students who would enroll Fall 2024).

(2) Adding alternative course to for EEC 502: EEC 502 is a required (core) course. Because it is offered every other year, for some students, especially the ABM students, taking this course in a timely manner can be nearly impossible. We are adding WRT533 (Seminar in Graduate Writing in Life Sciences) and BES521 (Rhetorical Field Methods for Science Communication) as alternative courses in place of EEC 502 on its off-year. We aim for this change will be effective immediately for students who enrolled Fall 2023.

**Environmental and Natural Resource Economics - ABM**

**Updating admission requirement**

Removing the requirement to submit "a letter of support for admission from the student's undergraduate advisor or the student's future major professor" when applying for the program. All applicants must submit a pre-application form signed by their undergraduate advisors, thus a letter of support requirement is redundant. We aim to implement this change in the 2023-24 application cycle.

**VII. New Business**

A. EGRA Reviews

**VIII. Adjournment**