THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
GRADUATE SCHOOL

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To: Members of the 2024-2025 Graduate Council

From: Hans Saint-Eloi Cadely, Chair
            Brenton DeBoef, Dean
            Colleen Mouw, Associate Dean

Date: January 13, 2025

RE: Agenda for Meeting Number 567 of the Graduate Council to be held on Monday,
            January 13, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. virtual via Zoom

I. **Call to order**

II. **Approval of Minutes - Meeting No. 566, November 25, 2024**

III. **Announcements**
  A. Professional Development *(Mitnick)*
      1. Three-Minute Thesis
  B. CGS Review *(DeBoef)*
  C. Fellowship Announcement *(Mouw)*
  D. Recent appointments to the Graduate Faculty *(Mouw)*

   Jamie Blalock, Assistant Professor, CHS   *Karen Morse, Director University Archives & Special Collections, Library*

   Thomas Lavoie, Professor, COP   *Nicholas M. Difilippo, Adjunct Faculty, COE*

   Marian Goldsmith, Emeritus Professor, CELS   *Peng Zhang, Outside Scholar, COP*

   Mark E. Hartman, Outside Scholar, CHS   *Jacob Paul DeBlois, Assistant Professor, CHS*

   Thomas A. Delomas, Adjunct Faculty, CELS   *Daniel P. Carpenter, Teaching Professor, CAS*

   Breanna L. Wisseman, Teaching Professor, CHS   *Madelaine C. Cahuas, Outside Scholar, CELS*

   Bhagwat Prasad, Outside Scholar, COP

IV. **New Business**
   No new business items to discuss

V. **Graduate Curriculum (Kuali Agenda) (Mouw)**

COURSE CHANGES *(vote by college)*

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

MUS 594 | Wind Ensemble   **Change in description, method of instruction**

(0-1 cr.) The Wind Ensemble is an auditioned ensemble that performs a diverse repertoire chosen from a variety of genres, historical eras and cultural backgrounds. (Rehearsal) Pre: audition at graduate level of performance. May be repeated for credit.

<mark>TABLED</mark> MUS 548 | Research in Music   **Change in description, method of instruction**
(3 crs.) Study of research techniques as applied to the art of music. Major project procedures and data collection and examination in the following research categories: historical, philosophical, clinical, and empirical. (Lec. 3) Pre: graduate standing in music or permission of instructor.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

MBA 540 | Organizational Decision Making and Design   **Change in method of instruction**
(3 crs.) Theory and skills development in strategic thinking and organizational design; use of critical analysis in the diagnosis of organizational and management problems. (Lec. 3/Online) Pre: graduate standing.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

EDC 562 | Methods of Intervention for Literacy Difficulties   **Change in description, method of instruction**
(3 crs.) Teachers will explore methods and materials used for developing phonological awareness, sound/symbol knowledge, word reading skills, fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary through readings, discussions, application, and reflection. (Lec. 3/Online) Pre: Restricted to students accepted to teacher education, or graduate standing, or permission of instructor.

EDS 500 | Intro to Special Ed Interventions in Math & Content Areas   **Change in description, method of instruction**
(2 crs.) Provides future special educators with knowledge and skills to plan instruction for students with mild or moderate disabilities, including mathematics and content strategy instruction. (Lec. 2/Online) Pre: Admission into MA in Education in Special Education, or permission of instructor.

EDS 501 | Collaboration and Co-Teaching   **Change in description, method of instruction**
(2 crs.) Provides future special educators with knowledge and skills to implement culturally responsive collaboration with family members and school based professionals. Definitions of disabilities and educational implications, focusing on the role of the special educator in inclusive education. (Lec. 2/Online) Pre: Admission into MA in Education in Special Education, or permission of instructor.

EDS 503 | Positive Behavior Supports   **Change in method of instruction**
(3 crs.) Provides future special educators with the knowledge and skills to examine causes of behaviors, to teach pro-social behaviors and to develop individualized positive behavioral supports. (Lec. 3) Pre: Admission into MA in Education in Special Education, or permission of instructor.

COLLEGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT & LIFE SCIENCES

<mark>TABLED</mark> BTC 571 | Biotechnology Product Evaluation and Development   **Change in course code**
(3 crs.) The process through which candidate products produced using recombinant DNA technology are evaluated for safety and efficacy, including conductance of clinical trials, economic issues, and regulatory affairs. (Lec. 3/Online) Pre: graduate standing and permission of chairperson.

AFS 531 | Fisheries Stock Assessment   **Change in description, prerequisites, method of instruction**
(3 crs.) A quantitative approach to describing the processes of fish growth and mortality, the estimation of stock size, the prediction of stock yield, and management practices. Spreadsheets and other microcomputer applications will be used for analysis and modeling. (Lec. 2, Lab. 3/Online) Pre: AFS415, STA 409 or permission of instructor.

NRS 520 | Quantitative Ecology II   **Change in description, prerequisites**
(3 crs.) Research design, analysis, and interpretation of ecological data. Emphasis on hands-on experience of quantitative and computerized techniques commonly used by natural resource scientists. (Lec. 2, Lab 2) Pre: NRS402 or by permission of instructor.

NRS 410 | Fundamentals of GIS   **Change in description**
(3 crs.) Emphasis on using a geographic information system (GIS) to create a geographically referenced spatial database, spatial topology, data visualization, computer-assisted map making, and spatial data query and analysis. (Online)

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCE

CMD 561 | Speech Sound Disorders   **Change in description, prerequisites, method of instruction**
(3 crs.) Assessment, design, and implementation of therapeutic management programs for various speech production disorders at the articulatory and phonological levels. (Lec. 3) Pre: Graduate student in MS-SLP program, or equivalent, or permission of instructor.

CMD 565 | Pre-Practicum in Speech-Language Pathology   **Change in description, prerequisites, method of instruction**
(1 cr.) Case study methodology to facilitate students' transition from coursework to clinic. Solve open-ended real world problems. Apply course knowledge to analyze issues and formulate workable solutions. (Seminar) Pre: Graduate students in MS-SLP program. S/U credit.

CMD 569 | Test and Measurement in Speech-Language Pathology   **Change in description, prerequisites, method of instruction**
(3 crs.) Procedures for evaluation and diagnosis in speech-language pathology. Psychometric considerations in testing. Implications of evaluation information for differential diagnosis, prognosis, referral, and therapeutic programming. Multicultural considerations in the diagnostic process. (Lec. 3) Pre: Graduate student in MS-SLP program, or permission of instructor.

CMD 580 | Augmentative and Alternative Communication   **Change in description, prerequisites, method of instruction**
(2 crs.) Review of unaided (manual) approaches to communication. Discussion of aided methods using communication boards and other mechanical electronic devices. (Lec. 2) Pre: Graduate students in MS-SLP program, or permission of instructor.

CMD 581 | Dysphagia   **Change in description, prerequisites, method of instruction**
(3 crs.) Basic introduction to the knowledge and skills needed by speech- language pathologists providing clinical services to individuals with dysphagia in medical settings. (Lec. 3) Pre: Graduate student in MS-SLP program, or permission of instructor.

CMD 584 | Language Disorders in Developmentally Young Children   **Change in description, prerequisites, method of instruction**
(3 crs.) Study of communication differences and disorders in developmentally young children and children with multiple disabilities: types of communication disorders; differential diagnoses; assessment of conceptual requisites and concrete language skills; and interactive therapeutic strategies. (Lec. 3) Pre: Graduate student in MS-SLP program, or permission of instructor.

CMD 585 | Language Disorders in Adults   **Change in description, prerequisites, method of instruction**
(3 crs.) Provides basic information on the characteristics, assessment, and treatment of adults with acquired language disorders secondary to stroke, head injury, and progressive neurological diseases. (Lec. 3) Pre: Graduate student in MS-SLP program or permission of instructor.

CMD 592 | Disorders of Fluency   **Change in description, prerequisites, method of instruction**

(3 crs.) Study of nature and causes of fluency disorders; analyses of current theories and research concerning fluency disorders; development of a rationale for diagnosis, case selection, and intervention. (Lec. 3) Pre: Graduate student in MS-SLP program, or permission of instructor.

KIN 420 | Fitness Programs for Individuals with Chronic Diseases   **Change in description, method of instruction**

(3 crs.) Theory and application of physical fitness programs and testing of individuals with cardiovascular, musculoskeletal, and metabolic diseases. (Lec. 3/Online) Pre: KIN 325, 300 and 301. (D1)

HDF 565 | Family Therapy Practicum   **Change in description, method of instruction**

(1-6 crs.) Preparation for and practice of couple and family therapy. Live supervision, student-presented case material, and review of recordings of actual counseling sessions. (Practicum 3) Pre: Admission to CFT program or permission of instructor. May be repeated for a maximum of 18 credits.

PSY 544 (EDC 544) | Reading Acquisition & Disability: Research & Impl for Pract   **Change in description, method of instruction**

(3 crs.) Cross-listed as (PSY), EDC544. Examination of research on the language, cognitive, and reading characteristics of children who successfully learn to read and of those who encounter difficulty. Additional focus on the implications and use of the research for assessment and instruction. (Lec. 3/Online) Pre: graduate standing or permission of instructor.

NEW COURSES *(vote by college)*

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

CSC 521 | Human-Computer Interaction

(4 crs.) Teaches methods to conduct research in Human-Computer Interaction through independent reading, four research assignments, and class discussions. Students will apply HCI research methods to emerging areas to discover new knowledge. (Seminar) Pre: Permission of instructor.

NEW 600 | Computational Social Science Pro-seminar

(3 crs.) This Computational Social Sciences PhD pro-seminar introduces tools and techniques for analyzing large-scale data on social behavior, combining theoretical discussions with hands-on R programming for data collection, processing, analysis, and visualization. (Seminar) Pre: Graduate standing

NEW 610 | Ethics of Computational Social Science

(3 crs.) This course explores ethical issues in computational social science, focusing on privacy, surveillance, censorship, and big data's impact on decision-making using real-world examples. (Seminar) Pre: Graduate standing

TABLED NEW 620 | Empirical Modeling of Social Science Theory

(3 crs.) This course teaches specifying, estimating, interpreting, and presenting empirical models that reflect complex, context-dependent causal relationships, including temporal, spatial, and spatiotemporal dynamics, and endogeneity. (Seminar) Pre: Graduate standing

TABLED NEW 630 | Computational Social Science Integrative Theories

(3 crs.) This course is a shell course and it introduces different social science theories and how these theories can be studied with computational methods and techniques. (Seminar) Pre: Graduate standing
May be repeated for credit.

<mark>TABLED</mark> NEW 650 | Computational Social Science Methods

(3 crs.) This course is designed for the Computational Social Science PhD program, and it introduces the most up-to-date methods in the discipline. This is a shell course for various different types of methods in the field of Computational Social Science. (Seminar 2, Lab. 1) Pre: Graduate standing

NEW 690 | Computational Social Science Dissertation Prospectus

(1-3 crs.) This course guides students in writing a dissertation prospectus, covering research questions, topic proposal, literature review, research methods, and preparation for the prospectus defense. (Independent Study) Pre: Graduate standing

NEW 699 | Computational Social Science Dissertation

(1-12 crs.) This course guides students through researching and producing a dissertation, including topic selection, literature review, proposal writing, method development, and preparing for the dissertation defense. (Independent Study) Pre: Graduate standing

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

MBA 533 | Machine Learning for Finance

(3 crs.) Introduces students to essential machine learning techniques for canonical modeling and decision-making frameworks. The curriculum spans a wide range of topics—from fundamental principles to advanced applications—providing a solid foundation in machine learning concepts and methodologies. Bridging theory and practice, the course emphasizes hands-on learning through data-centric programming exercises in Python. (Online) Pre: C or better in FIN412, or by permission of instructor

<mark>TABLED</mark> MBA 534 | FinTech Law

(3 crs.) Introduction to key legal and regulatory challenges FinTech firms in various sectors face, and the critical policy debates that are occurring in Washington D.C. and state capitals across the country. (Online)

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCE

HDF 582 | Master's Internship

(1 cr.) Supervised field experience in various settings. Culminating experience integrates program theory and skills. (Practicum) Pre: graduate standing and permission of instructor. S/U only.

KIN 470 | Biomechanics of Human Motion

(3 crs.) Introduces advanced musculoskeletal biomechanics and the quantitative analysis of human movement. Reviews the principles of motion and applies them to experimental and computational methods to evaluate human motion. (Lec. 3) Pre: BIO 220, BIO 222, KIN 370, PHY 111, and one of MTH 101, 103, 111 or 131. Open to Kinesiology majors only, or by permission of instructor

NUT 445 | Medical Nutrition Therapy II

(3 crs.) Effects of disease on metabolism and nutritional requirements, implications for dietary change including Medical Nutrition Therapy, and factors affecting acceptance of such change. (Lec. 3). Pre: NUT 441, 443 and 444

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

PHC 504 | The Process and Conduct of Clinical Research

(3 crs.) Conduct of clinical research, from drafting the Investigator Brochure to submitting a New Drug Application (NDA). Key steps, regulatory issues regarding design and conduct of clinical trials, current controversies, ethical issues. (Lec. 3) Pre: PHC502 or by permission of instructor.

VI.   Graduate New Program & Tracks (Kuali Agenda) (Kulesh)

<p style="text-align:center">**PROGRAMS CHANGES** *(vote by program)*</p>

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Library and Information Studies - MLIS

Fall 2024 change - removing the deadline dates from the Admissions Requirements section. We are not actually changing the dates, but we would like the flexibility to change them in the future in case they fall on a Sunday or other day inconvenient to applicants. By removing the dates here, we would have that flexibility. The dates will continue to be listed for each year on our website.

Leaving this here from last item - Updating required courses in the Digital Media Track to reflect a change legislated during the time Kuali was being implemented, but was mistakenly not added to the catalog. These changes were approved in Bill #21-22-21B:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XlqSOuKERd_Y6K0WFIExcj3piek-0k3z/view

Information Equity, Diverse Communities, and Critical Librarianship - Specialty

Equity, diversity, and inclusion are fundamental values of the American Library Association and are one of ALA's committed key action areas which act as guiding principles for investment of energies and resources. ALA's Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services also encourages using a social-justice framework of diverse perspectives within LIS to advocate for equitable access to library services for all people.

In an increasingly diversifying country, library and information professionals are in need of critical thinking skills, cultural competency approaches, and new social justice approaches to executing equitable information spaces.

Currently, LIS programs, professional organizations, and LIS-based companies are competitively offering trainings around Information Equity, Diverse Communities, and Critical Librarianship approaches to LIS. For example, the New England Library Association (NELA) held a one-day diversity summit in the summer of 2017 with full enrollment, heavily focused on discussing race, racism, gender, sexuality, ability, immigrant and migrant rights, and social justice applications to diverse groups. The University of North Carolina's School of Information and Library Science offers a Diversity Advocate Certificate, the LIS press "Library Juice Press Academy" offers a course titled "Exploring and Applying Critical Theory: An Introduction for Librarians,", and Library Journal has a number of diversity based professional development workshops such as "Diversity and Cultural Competency Training: Collections & RA," to name a few. This graduate track is a highly manageable 12-credit program from an accredited institution of higher education. The proposed track in Information Equity, Diverse Communities, and Critical Librarianship approaches will prepare LIS graduates for diverse workplaces, serving and collaborating with diverse populations, and recruiting a more diverse workforce, as well as creating equitable information institutes. This proposed track will be the only such track in New England and as a track, it will also serve librarians across the United States

COLLEGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT & LIFE SCIENCES

Environmental and Natural Resource Economics - MS

1. We request approval to change the CIP code for MS in ENRE from 45.0602 Applied Economics to 03.0204 Natural Resource Economics. First, 03.0204 better describes the curricula and course content of ENRE's graduate programs and is already being used for B.S. in ENRE. Second, in July 2024, 03.0204 was recently designated as a STEM degree for the purposes of the 24-month STEM optional practical training (OPT) extension. We anticipate that changing the CIP code to a STEM degree will make our degree more appealing and attract high quality international graduate students to this program.

[Item 2 was removed by the Graduate Council's New Programs Committee on January 6, 2024.]

~~2. If the change in CIP code is approved, we request to change the program description by adding the following sentence at the end:"The M.S. and PhD in Environmental & Natural Resource Economics are considered STEM degrees for the purposes of Optional Practical Training (OPT)."~~

Proposed initiation date of Winter 2025 with anticipated date for granting first degree/certificate with changes in Spring 2025.

Environmental and Natural Resource Economics - PHD

1. We request approval to change the CIP code for admission:PhD in ENRE from 45.0602 Applied Economics to 03.0204 Natural Resource Economics. First, 03.0204 better describes the curricula and the course content of ENRE's PhD program, and is already being used for B.S. in ENRE. Second, in July 2024, 03.0204 was designated as a STEM degree for the purposes of the 24-month STEM optional practical training (OPT) extension. We anticipate changing the CIP code to a STEM degree will make our degree more competitive and attract high quality international graduate students to URI.

[Item 2 was removed by the Graduate Council's New Programs Committee on January 6, 2024.]

~~2. Simultaneously, we request to change the program description by adding the following sentence: "The PhD in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics is considered a STEM degree for the purposes of Optional Practical Training (OPT)."~~

[Items 3 and 4 were approved by the Graduate Council and Faculty Senate in December 2024.]

3. Reduce the number of credits required. The graduate school now only requires 64 credits, so we are adjusting our program accordingly. We are reducing credits to allow students to take advantage of the increased availability of ABD semesters.

4. Allow for equivalent class to be taken in place of EEC502. When teaching capacity is strained in our department, we have found several suitable replacements for this class, and we want them to be able to count when we are unable to offer EEC502.

[A note to the reviewers: Our program description and admission requirements in Kuali did not reflect recent changes that had been approved. We copied and pasted the current program description and admission requirements into Kuali and then added items 2-4 above. 2-4 are the only changes we are requesting to the program description; all other changes have already been approved, as can be seen in the current catalog.]

Proposed changes include removing "in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics" from the degree title and an initiation date of Spring 2025.

<div align="center">

NEW PROGRAMS *(vote by program)*

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COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Management - MSM

Develop professional skills to become a more effective and innovative leader who can make data-informed decisions and has strategic expertise in business integration.

The program is designed for professional growth, building business knowledge and skills, insights, confidence, and interpersonal skills that can be used immediately to differentiate our graduates on the job market and in their careers.The program will continue to help professionals and aspiring professionals upskill and prepare for advanced organizational leadership positions.

There is potential overlap with the MBA. This program may feed the MBA (dual degrees may be possible). The goal will be to differentiate the target audience for the two programs, where the MBA should attract students with business experience or an undergraduate business background and at least two years of business experience. The MBA core curriculum will be differentiated from the MSM. The MBA curriculum is being reviewed now.

COLLEGE OF OCEANOGRAPHY

Ocean Science Graduate Certificate

The Ocean Science Graduate Certificate provides students with practical experience and up to date knowledge aimed at enhancing careers in ocean-related businesses as well as governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Program Requirements: 12 credits, 9 of which must be from OCG courses including at least 2 courses from the following OCG classes, OCG 501 or 517, 521, 540 and 561. At least one OCG elective in addition to the two required OCG classes. This can be any didactic OCG class. One free elective from the list that is approved for the present MO including OCG and non-OCG classes as listed in the GSO Degree Requirements.

VII.   Adjournment