

# Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

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April 4, 2023

## Members Present:

Dalton, David, Chair – Languages & Culture Studies  
Brown, Dace – Public Health Sciences  
Canevello, Amy – Psychological Science  
Lachance, Joan – Middle, Secondary and K-12 Education  
Lai, Gene – Finance  
McAdams, Jeff – Atkins Library  
Moller, Stephanie - Sociology  
Mostafavi, Taghi – Computer Science  
Peterson, Nicole – Anthropology  
Sarkar, Kaustavi – Dance  
Smithwick, Jake – Engineering Technology and Construction Management

**Also Attending:** Gilchrist, Tynsley – Graduate School Intern, (Ed Leadership PhD student)  
Goodliffe, Julie – Graduate School  
Krause, Sandy – Graduate School  
Morse, Janet – Graduate School  
Watson, Johnna – Graduate School  
Wyse, Matt – Faculty Governance

**Absent:** Mukherjee, Pinku – Interim Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Provost, conflict with another meeting.

## I. Report of the Chair – Dr. David Dalton

Chair Dalton opened the meeting.

### A. Approval of the March 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes as submitted by Canevello with a second from Mostafavi. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

B. Chair Dalton called for a Subcommittee to facilitate the Performance Feedback for Assistant/Associate Deans of the Graduate School. Amy Canevello, Gene Lai, Kaus Sarkar and Jake Smithwick to serve on this subcommittee.

## II. Report of the Graduate School Dean

**Enrollment Management** – Johnna Watson, Graduate School

- April 3 was the first day of registration.
- The Graduate School registered 1900 students in the first 24 hours.
- Domestic applications are up while international applications are down.
- The Provost will be sending out a message on Thursday to encourage faculty to do personal outreach to keep students engaged to enroll.

### III. Discussion Topics

#### A. English Language Proficiency: Expanded Pathways Proposal – Tynsley Gilchrist/Johnna Watson, Graduate School

- Gilchrist presented a proposal for the Graduate Council members to share with their departments and colleges. Along with the TOEFL and IELTS, Duolingo is being used at other schools and is more affordable.
- The proposal covers the changes in requirements for language proficiency.
- The Council reviewed the proposal and offered some minor edits.
- The Graduate School is working with ELTI on campus to incorporate this new testing company as another choice.

#### **Compensation Packages – Julie Goodliffe**

- April 15 is National Signing Day.
- Compensation packages for students are on Tableau.
- If you need any reports pulled out of Report Central, contact Julie.

#### B. Syllabus Discussion – David Dalton

- Is it the Graduate Council's job to read through syllabi for key required elements, grammar, etc.
- The Graduate Council feels that their time would be better spent looking at the big questions like Learning Objectives, Student Learning Outcomes, etc.
- The Council feels that the colleges should review these more effectively at the college level.

#### C. Topics to discuss with Provost Bertone's attendance at the May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

- Development of PhD programs
- Vision for growth versus quality (quality versus quantity)
- How does the Graduate Council fit in?

### IV. Course and Curriculum Proposals

#### A. BIOL 5261 – Genome Stability and Human Disease

Originator: Junya Tomida, Biological Sciences

**Graduate Council Assignments: Lachance, Mostafavi and Sarkar**

1. Department was asked to remove all references to Undergraduate course in the graduate syllabus.

**There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mostafavi to approve the proposal pending revisions with a second from Brown. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

B. COMM 6200 – Communication Pedagogy

Originator: Erin Basinger, Communication Studies

Graduate Council Assignments: Lachance, Mostafavi and Sarkar

**A motion was made by Mostafavi to approve the proposal as submitted with a second from Brown. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

C. COMM 6881 – Communication Research Practicum

Originator: Erin Basinger, Communication Studies

Graduate Council Assignments: Lachance, Mostafavi and Sarkar

**A motion was made by Mostafavi to approve the proposal as submitted with a second from Brown. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

D. Community Centered Practices, M.F.A. – Request to Establish

Originator: Carlos Cruz Casas, Theatre

Graduate Council Assignments: All Committee Members

1. There were no comments from any of the Council members in Curriculum.
2. Needs Letter of Support from Anthropology.

E. CSLG 7148 – Expressive Arts Through the Lifespan

Originator: Kristie Opiola, Counseling

Graduate Council Assignments: Lachance, Mostafavi and Sarkar

1. Add graduate grading scale to syllabus and D13 should be changed to A, B, C, U in the proposal.

**There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mostafavi to approve the proposal pending revisions with a second from Brown. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

F. CSLG 7682 – Trauma Counseling

Originator: Kristie Opiola, Counseling

Graduate Council Assignments: Canevello, Lai and Smithwick

1. The grading scale described in this proposal is based on the standards for undergraduate courses (i.e., A, B, C, D, F). Please use the standard for graduate courses (i.e., A, B, C, U) and include this information in the syllabus.
2. The information in D14 (course grading breakdown) should be included in the syllabus. Also, the description of how participation points are weighed is confusing. The syllabus describes that participation will be graded for each class meeting on a 0 - 10 point scale, but the description in D14 suggests that participation is worth a total of 50 points toward the final grade. How will this work, given that the course meets twice per week (i.e., there would be somewhere in the ballpark of 30 meetings).

3. Finally, responses to D3 and D4 should be corrected - D3 asks for the course prefix \*and\* number; D4 asks for the course title.

**There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mostafavi to approve the proposal pending revisions with a second from Brown. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

- G. ELDT 6180 – LDT Project Management and Team Leadership  
Originator: Susan Allred (Beth) Oyarzun, Educational Leadership  
Graduate Council Assignments: Canevello, Lai and Smithwick

**There being no comments in Curriculog, a motion was made by Mostafavi to approve the proposal as submitted with a second from Brown. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

- H. FINN 6217 – Blockchain, Cryptocurrencies, and Decentralized Finance  
Originator: Dolly King, Finance  
Graduate Council Assignments: Canevello, Lai and Smithwick

1. Please add hours of instruction and Title IX information.

**There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mostafavi to approve the proposal pending revisions with a second from Brown. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

- I. ITIS 5261 – Introduction to Secured Cloud Computing  
Originator: Bei-Tseng (Bill) Chu, Software and Information Systems  
Graduate Council Assignments: Canevello, Lai and Smithwick

J.

1. Please add Title IX information.

**There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mostafavi to approve the proposal pending revisions with a second from Brown. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

- J. ITIS 6121 – Data and Information Visualization  
Originator: Kalpathi Subramanian, Computer Science  
Graduate Council Assignments: Brown, Moller and Peterson

1. This syllabus is incomplete to reflect any unit, college, or university policies.
2. Crosslisted with 8121 but syllabus does not indicate differences between MS students and doctoral students, in CCI as well as students outside of CCI (mentioned in C3).
3. Separate syllabi should be created for the courses. (UG versus Graduate)
4. Add topics outline
5. Add policies that address Academic Integrity, Accommodations and attendance.

**There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mostafavi to approve the proposal pending revisions with a second from Brown. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

K. ITIS 8121 – Data and Information Visualization

Originator: Kalpathi Subramanian, Computer Science

Graduate Council Assignments: Brown, Moller and Peterson

1. Crosslisted with 6121 but syllabus does not indicate differences between MS students and doctoral students, in CCI as well as students outside of CCI (mentioned in C3).
2. Separate syllabi should be created for the Undergraduate and Graduate courses.
3. Add topics outline
4. Add policies that address Academic Integrity, Accommodations and attendance.

**There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mostafavi to approve the proposal pending revisions with a second from Brown. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

L. ITIS 6188 – Text Mining and Information Retrieval

Originator: Xi (Sunshine) Niu, Software and Information Systems

Graduate Council Assignments: Brown, Moller and Peterson

1. Syllabus needs to be updated to reflect type of instruction being proposed (F2F per B16) as opposed to the Zoom information provided.
2. COVID-19 policies need to be removed.
3. College policies should be added.
4. Because the first required book is 7 years old and there has not been an updated version released, options for more affordable student pricing should be considered. <https://www.pdfdrive.com/text-data-management-and-analysis-a-practical-introduction-to-information-retrieval-and-text-mining-d182432762.html>
5. Add Academic Policies.

**There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mostafavi to approve the proposal pending revisions with a second from Brown. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

M. PHYS 5105 – Fundamentals of Physics Teaching

Originator: Pedram Leilabady, Physics and Optical Science

Graduate Council Assignments: Brown, Moller and Peterson

1. A suggestion was made to clarify the course grading before the course is taught.

**A motion was made by Mostafavi to approve the proposal as submitted with a second from Brown. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

V. Other Business

Lai made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Peterson.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 1:50pm.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, May 2, 2023  
12:30-2:00pm – Reese 211

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Annette Parks".

Annette Parks  
Graduate Council Secretary