

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday September 2, 2025

Members/Alternates Present:

Brown, Dace, Chair – Public Health Sciences
Bin Abdul Baten, Redwan - Health Management & Policy
Christou, Eliana - Mathematics and Statistics
Cox, Kyle – Educational Leadership
Ivey, S.L. - GPSG Student Representative
Johar, Monica – Bus Information Sys and Operations Management
Libby, Garrison – Atkins Library
Montanaro, Erika – Psychological Science
Murtha, Timothy – Anthropology
Tolone, Bill – Dean of the Graduate School
Xu, Terry – Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Science
Walter, Michael - Chemistry

Also Attending:

Coffey, Lauren - Graduate School
Cottenoir, Mitch – Office of Assessment and Accreditation
Hall-Hertel, Katherine – Graduate School
Watson, Johnna – Graduate School
Wyse, Matt – Academic Affairs, Faculty Governance Assistant
Zillante, Artie – College of Business

Absent:

Gall, David – Art & Art History
Lipford, Heather - Software and Information Systems

I. Report of the Chair – Dace Brown

- a.** Approval of the May 6, 2025, and August 19, 2025 minutes

Montanaro made a motion to approve the minutes and Bin Abdul Baten seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

II. Course and Curriculum Proposals

- a. Entrepreneurship, M.S. - New Graduate Program**

Originator: Artie Zillante, Economics

Committee Member Assignments: All Members

Cox noted that while reviewing Justification and Impact the proposal notes some overlap with MBA courses but that there is likely no impact. Zillante confirmed that there would be no impact. He also noted that there is no other program like this in the state.

Murtha made a motion to approve the proposal and Cox seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

III. Report of the Dean - William Tolone

Dean Tolone reported that graduate enrollment ended at 5,994 following the census, a strong finish given earlier projections and challenges, especially with international student numbers declining. He also reported that domestic and in-state enrollment increased, helping to offset the decline in international students. Dean Tolone thanked everyone for their hard work, and asked the council to continue their outreach to students, especially those at risk for cancellation of non-payment.

IV. Discussion Topics

a. Credit for Prior Learning – Dr. Katherine Hall-Hertel

Graduate School Associate Dean Hall-Hertel reported on the task force examining credit for prior learning (CPL) at the graduate level. The task force has drafted a policy to expand CPL to include challenge exams, portfolios, and other faculty determined assessment options. The policy will be broad, allowing programs to determine how best to assess competencies. The draft of the policy will be shared with the council so they can make comments. Feedback is requested by September 20.

V. Other Business

Hall-Hertel reported that there is a change to mentor training this year. Instead of one day-long session, the training will be broken into 3 sessions, one per month.

Ivey reported that the most recent GPSG monthly senate meeting was attended by 95% of the senators, an increase from the average attendance. He also reported that GPSG will tackle a different student-related issue each meeting. They discussed student hunger at the last meeting.

Bin Abdul Baten made a motion to adjourn. Montanaro seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 1:22 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 7, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel Jones".

Daniel Jones