

# Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

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**Tuesday December 2, 2025**

**Members/Alternates Present:**

Brown, Dace, Chair – Public Health Sciences  
Cox, Kyle – Educational Leadership  
Gall, David – Art & Art History  
Ivey, S.L. - GPSG Student Representative  
Johar, Monica – Bus Information Sys and Operations Management  
Libby, Garrison – Atkins Library  
Lipford, Heather, Vice Chair - Software and Information Systems  
Montanaro, Erika – Psychological Science  
Murtha, Timothy – Anthropology  
Tolone, Bill – Dean of the Graduate School  
Walter, Michael - Chemistry  
Xu, Terry – Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Science

**Also Attending:** Chiang, Ethan - College of Business  
Coffey, Lauren - Graduate School  
Cottenoir, Mitch – Office of Assessment and Accreditation  
Hall-Hertel, Katherine – Graduate School  
Tian, Weidong – College of Business  
Watson, Johnna – Graduate School  
Wyse, Matt - Academic Affairs, Faculty Governance Assistant

**Absent:** Bin Abdul Baten, Redwan - Health Management & Policy  
Christou, Eliana - Mathematics and Statistics

## I. Report of the Chair – Dace Brown

### A. Approval of the October 7, 2025, minutes

Chair Brown welcomed everyone and reported that we will have at least 3 proposals for the January meeting. Gall motioned to approve the October minutes and Lipford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## II. Course and Curriculum Proposals

- A. ELDT – 6155 - Personalized Learning with Innovative Technologies
- B. ELDT – 6165 - Performance Needs Analysis
- C. ELDT – 8155 - Personalized Learning with Innovative Technologies
- D. FINN – 6220 - Advanced Financial Modeling with AI

E. FINN – 6221 - Financial Resource and Risk Management

There was an inconsistency in the proposal regarding textbooks. Dr. Chiang approved the change and gave Secretary Jones permission to make the change in Curriculog.

F. MBAD – 6167 - AI: Ethics, Law, and the Business Environment

There was concern that the grading scale is not consistent with grading scales in other graduate courses. Dr. Chiang approved the change to the grading scale and gave Secretary Jones permission to make the change in Curriculog.

G. MBAD – 6214 - AI for Business Competitive Advantage

There was confusion regarding whether the class is offered online or in person. Dr. Chiang confirmed it is online. There were similar questions regarding textbooks and the grading scale as the previous proposals. Dr. Chiang approved the changes and gave Secretary Jones permission to make the changes in Curriculog.

H. MBAD – 6285 - AI for Business Decisions and Consumer Insights

It was noted that the proposal did not include a selection of “adequate” from the librarian, despite the librarian passing the proposal. Libby suggested that the librarian meant to select it and might have forgotten, and it is fine for us to select it on their behalf. Lipford motioned to make the changes, and the motion passed unanimously.

There was concern that the grading scale is not consistent with grading scales in other graduate courses. Dr. Chiang approved the change to the grading scale and gave Secretary Jones permission to make the change in Curriculog.

I. SPED – 5204 - Organizational Behavior Management

J. SPED – 5205 - Basic Behavior Analysis

Dr. Chiang and Dr. Tian from the Belk College of Business attended the meeting to discuss the FINN and MBAD proposals. These proposals are part of a new concentration, AI in Finance, which is replacing the Finance Data Analytics concentration.

Proposals A, B, C, D, I and J were noted as “good” in Curriculog and left on the consent calendar.

Lipford motioned to approve proposals E,F,G and H pending the corrections made by Secretary Jones. Murtha seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

### III. Report of the Dean – William Tolone

Dean Tolone reported that the Graduate School is continuing to work on the new MTART, as reported at the last meeting. He also reported that there will be changes to GRAD courses 9800, 7800, 9999 and 7999. For GRAD 9999 and 7999, the course description will be changed to no longer say that the student must defend within 4 weeks. Dean Tolone also noted that after taking GRAD 9800 for a full year, students must then submit a plan that is approved by their program.

#### IV. Discussion Topics

##### a. Auto Admit Program

Watson reported that the Graduate School is piloting an auto-admit program for undergraduate students in CCI programs with a 3.0 GPA. These students are invited to apply for CCI master's programs. This will allow UNC Charlotte to retain the best undergraduate students. The auto-admit program will waive recommendations, GRE scores, statement of purpose, and transcripts. The college is providing the application fee. Two students have already been admitted, and 13 more applications are being processed. Other colleges have reached out about using the program.

##### b. Required Canvas Course Training for New Chairs

At the last meeting, it was decided that the council members would take the required Canvas course training for new chairs to their colleges and report back with any feedback. Murtha reported that the response from CHESS was that they did not support the training being mandatory because GPDs are already overwhelmed. Chair Brown reported that GPDs in CHHS are in favor of the training and 2 faculty members have already completed the training. Lipford reported that she did not hear any push back but she thinks they would see it as valuable. Murtha noted that there probably wouldn't be any pushback if the program were optional and used as a resource rather than being mandatory. Gall agreed that it should be optional. Murtha motioned to pass the program as optional rather than mandatory. Cox seconded the motion. The motion passed with 7 yesses and 2 abstentions.

##### c. Academic Dismissal Policy

Hall-Hertel notified the Council of a proposed change to the Academic Proposal Policy. Currently, some students who are terminated or suspended may not be reinstated for six months, which may force some international students to leave the country. The proposed changes would include probation, during which a student may still attend classes. Students will only be suspended if they have earned at least 15 credits. Termination will now be known as academic dismissal. Cox noted that some students may take multiple semesters to get to 15 credit hours and recommended 12 credit hours or 2 semesters. Hall-Hertel said that her team would take this feedback into account and make adjustments.

##### d. Registration Policies

An update to the registration policy was presented to the Faculty Council. The update requires someone to be registered for a course in order to attend classes. Instructors may allow someone to attend a limited number of classes without being registered, but the new policy also gives instructors a right to refuse attendance to someone who is not registered.

#### V. Other Business

There was no other business.

Murtha motioned to adjourn the meeting and Gall seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel Jones". The ink is black and the signature is fluid and legible.

Daniel Jones