

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday January 13, 2025

Members/Alternates Present:

Brown, Dace, Chair – Public Health Sciences
Cox, Kyle – Educational Leadership
Gall, David – Art & Art History
Lipford, Heather, Vice Chair - Software and Information Systems
Montanaro, Erika – Psychological Science
Tolone, Bill – Dean of the Graduate School
Walter, Michael - Chemistry
Xu, Terry – Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Science

Also Attending:

Coffey, Lauren - Graduate School
Cottenoir, Mitch – Office of Assessment and Accreditation
Hall-Hertel, Katherine – Graduate School
Hancock, Cynthia - Sociology
Watson, Johnna – Graduate School
Wyse, Matt - Academic Affairs, Faculty Governance Assistant

Absent:

Bin Abdul Baten, Redwan - Health Management & Policy
Christou, Eliana - Mathematics and Statistics
Ivey, S.L. - GPSG Student Representative
Johar, Monica – Bus Information Sys and Operations Management
Libby, Garrison – Atkins Library
Murtha, Timothy – Anthropology

I. Report of the Chair – Dace Brown

A. Approval of the December 2, 2025, minutes

Chair Brown welcomed everyone and reported that next month the Council will have several proposals to review because a lot of proposals get submitted in December. She also reminded the Council to make arrangements with their alternate if they can't attend. Montanaro motioned to approve the December minutes and Walter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Course and Curriculum Proposals

- A. GEOG – 8900 - Qualifying Examination
- B. GRNT – 5364 - Aging and Criminal Justice: An Interdisciplinary Understanding
- C. ITCS – 6102 - Deep Reinforcement Learning
- D. ITCS – 8102 - Deep Reinforcement Learning
- E. ITIS – 6415 - Cybersecurity Clinic
- F. ITIS – 8415 - Cybersecurity Clinic

- G. ITSC – 6111 - Foundations of Programming
- H. MEGR – 5212 - Advanced Road Vehicle Dynamics
- I. MEGR – 5213 - Hybrid and Alternative Fuels Automotive Power Plants
- J. MEGR – 5281 - GD&T for Design and Inspection
- K. MEGR – 5282 - Fundamentals of Precision Machine Design
- L. MEGR – 5313 – Astromechanics
- M. MFPA – 5280 - Wildland Fire in America
- N. WGST – 5260 - Women: Middle Age and Beyond

There were no questions or concerns about proposals A, C, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, and L, and they were left on the consent calendar to be approved.

Cynthia Hancock from Sociology told the Council that proposals B and N are courses that have been taught as topics courses and the programs are submitting them to have a permanent graduate number. These courses were left on the consent calendar to be approved.

Cox commented that line A6 in proposal D did not correctly list the program. He also noted that line A11b listed the required textbooks but did not explain the decision for choosing the textbooks. The course is also improperly listed as a 6000-level course instead of 8000, and the course is listed as every two years, but a semester was not specified. Lipford emailed the originator during the meeting and received answers to these questions. Secretary Jones will make the corrections.

Proposal M was compared to the syllabus and the Council agreed the proposal could remain on the consent calendar to be approved. Hall-Hertel told the council that there is a new syllabus template in the works.

Cox motioned to approve the proposal pending the corrections and Lipford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Report of the Dean – William Tolone

- a. Dean Tolone reported that he presented the new Graduate School Grant program to the college deans. The new program, which will be implemented in the fall, will apply to master's and certificate students. Colleges will have the freedom to determine the amount of the award, within the minimum and maximum amounts required by the award. Academic Year 2027 will be a transition year since the Graduate School will honor existing MTART obligations.
- b. Dean Tolone also reminded the council about the Graduate Education Summit on January 30, 2026 and encouraged everyone to attend.

IV. Discussion Topics

- a. Academic Dismissal Policy

Hall-Hertel reported that the changes to the revised Academic Dismissal Policy discussed at the last meeting have been made. Lipford motioned to approve the revised

policy with the changes and Walter seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

V. Other Business

There was no other business.

Lipford motioned to adjourn the meeting and Cox seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1:44 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Daniel Jones