

# Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

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**Tuesday February 3, 2026**

**Members/Alternates Present:**

Brown, Dace, Chair – Public Health Sciences  
Auten, Beth - Atkins Library  
Bin Abdul Baten, Redwan - Health Management & Policy  
Cox, Kyle – Educational Leadership  
Gall, David – Art & Art History  
Ivey, S.L. - GPSG Student Representative  
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:**

Bailey, Sharon - Belk College of Business  
Burton, Hughlene - Turner School of Accountancy  
Chiang, Ethan - Finance  
Coffey, Heather - Middle Grades, Secondary and K-12  
Coffey, Lauren - Graduate School  
Cottenoir, Mitch – Office of Assessment and Accreditation  
Fox, Robert - School of Data Science  
Hall-Hertel, Katherine – Graduate School  
Heafner, Tina - Middle Grades, Secondary and K-12  
Hertel, Josh – School of Data Science  
Taylor, Bruce - Reading and Elementary Education  
Watson, Johnna – Graduate School  
Wyse, Matt - Academic Affairs, Faculty Governance Assistant

**Absent:**

Christou, Eliana - Mathematics and Statistics  
Johar, Monica – Bus Information Sys and Operations Management

I. Report of the Chair – Dace Brown

A. Approval of the January 13, 2026, minutes

Lipford motioned to approve the January 13, 2026 meeting minutes and Bin Abdul Baten seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Course and Curriculum Proposals

A. ACCT – 5220 - Income Tax

- B. ACCT - 5225 - Accounting Data Analytics
- C. ACCT - 6301 - Advanced Financial Reporting for Mergers and Acquisitions and Not-for-Profits
- D. ACCT - 6302 - Advanced Financial Reporting for Government Entities
- E. ACCT - 6325 - Advanced Accounting Data Analytics
- F. ACCT - 6331 - Business Tax Operations
- G. ACCT - 6332 - Business Tax Special Topics
- H. BDBA - 8141 - Introduction to Accounting Theory
- I. BDBA - 8201 - Research Methods in Accounting I
- J. BDBA - 8211 - Current Topics in Accounting Research Seminar I
- K. BDBA - 8231 - Research Methods in Accounting II
- L. BDBA - 8241 - Current Topics in Accounting Research Seminar II
- M. DSBA - 6171 - Data Engineering for AI
- N. DSBA - 6335 - Agentic AI
- O. EDCI - 6230 - Incorporating Engineering and Design Processes in STEM
- P. EDCI - 6231 - STEM Learning Environments
- Q. EDCI - 8030 - Topics in Multilingual Education
- R. EDCI - 8050 - Topics in Critical and Sociocultural Literacies
- S. EDCI - 8108 - Statistics and Data Literacy in K-12 Education
- T. EDCI - 8122 - Critical Ethnographic Methodologies in Literacy and Language Research
- U. EDCI - 8123 - Humanizing Inquiry in Language, Culture, and Literacy Education
- V. EDCI - 8124 - Narrative Inquiry in Literacy and Language Research
- W. EDCI - 8126 - Comparative Education
- X. EDCI - 8136 - Language, Identity, and Culture
- Y. EDCI - 8137 - Language and Culture
- Z. EDCI - 8138 - Comparative Language Study
- AA. EDCI - 8203 - Perspectives on Languages in Literacy Education
- BB. EDCI - 8313 -Media Literacies and Pedagogies in Education
- CC. EDCI - 8690 - Theoretical and Conceptual Frameworks Seminar
- DD. EDCI - 8830 - Independent Study in Multilingual Education
- EE. EDCI - 8870 - Independent Study in Critical and Sociocultural Literacies
- FF. Health Informatics and Analytics, M.S
- GG. ITIS - 5210 - Introduction to Identity & Access Management
- HH. ITIS - 6820 - Cybersecurity Project
- II. MDSK - 5256 - Methods in Teaching Health and Physical Education
- JJ. MDSK - 6357 - Advanced Methods in Teaching Health and Physical Education
- KK. READ - 6248 - Literacy Science and the Reading Brain
- LL. Teaching: Health and Physical Education, Graduate Certificate

19 proposals were on the consent calendar that members commented were ready to be approved. 2 proposals had easy fixes. READ 6248 needed to have the course number added, which Secretary Jones already did, and BDBA 8211, which needed easy fixes that Chair Brown was able to complete. Walter motioned to approve both proposals, and Lipford seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Lipford made a motion to accept the proposals on the consent calendar and Ivey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

David had commented on BDBA 8141 that the librarian comments were missing. Lipford motioned to accept the proposal as is. Gall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

BDBA 8231 had several comments. Secretary Jones made some changes during the meeting with permission of the department members attending. Ethan Chiang will reach out to faculty members in the department to get clarification on the pre-requisite. Bin Abdul Baten motioned to approve the proposal pending the clarification from the program. Lipford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Lipford had questions about the timeline for BDBA 8201. The department attendees confirmed that the timeline is correct because the course is only offered on weekends. They also confirmed that the course does not have prerequisites.

BDBA 8241 also did not have the librarian section checked. Lipford motioned to approve the proposal as is. Gall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Cox made a motion to approve EDCI 8122 and 8136 as is. Lipford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Xu had questions regarding EDCI 8030's effect on other programs and courses. The attendees from the College of Education confirmed that there is no effect on other programs. Lipford motioned to pass the proposal as is, and Cox seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Walter made a motion to approve the IT IS course proposals as is. Bin Abdul Baten seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Brown recommended sending the ACCT proposals back to the originators. Walter motioned to approve the ACCT proposals pending the corrections from the originators. Gall seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

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

Dean Tolone thanked everyone for attending the Graduate Education Summit on Friday, January 30, 2026. He encouraged everyone to fill out the feedback form.

### IV. Discussion Topics

There were no other discussion topics.

### V. Other Business

There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned at 1:53 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

*Daniel Jones*

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