

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday May 5, 2026

Members/Alternates Present:

Brown, Dace, Chair – Public Health Sciences
Bin Abdul Baten, Redwan - Health Management & Policy
Cox, Kyle – Educational Leadership
Gall, David – Art & Art History
Johar, Monica – Bus Information Sys and Operations Management
Libby, Garrison – Atkins Library
Lipford, Heather, Vice Chair - Software and Information Systems
Murtha, Timothy – Anthropology
Tolone, Bill – Dean of the Graduate School
Walter, Michael – Chemistry
Xu, Terry – Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Science

Also Attending: Coffey, Lauren - Graduate School

Absent: Christou, Eliana - Mathematics and Statistics
Ivey, S.L. - GPSG Student Representative
Montanaro, Erika – Psychological Science

I. Report of the Chair – Dace Brown

a. Approval of the March 3, 2026, minutes

Lipford made a motion to approve the minutes, and Gall seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

b. Approval of the April 7, 2026, minutes

Gall made motion to approve the minutes, and Murtha seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

c. Council Member Recognition Certificates

Chair Brown presented certificates of appreciation to council members to recognize their service work and research contributions. She explained that these certificates include specific details about the amount of work done, such as the number of proposals reviewed, to help with reporting requirements. Dean Tolone emphasized the importance of documenting actual contributions rather than just general committee service, based on his experience with CCI.

II. Course and Curriculum Proposals

There were no proposals to review for this meeting.

III. Report of the Dean – William Tolone

Dean Tolone thanked the Graduate Council for a productive year and reminded them that commencement is this week, with the Doctoral Hooding Ceremony on Thursday and the Graduate School Commencement on Saturday.

IV. Discussion Topics

a. Changes to the Graduate Faculty Bylaws

The group discussed changes to the bylaws, including adjustments to college representation, faculty criteria, and nomination processes. Chair Brown and Lauren Coffey highlighted updates such as removing specific CHESS representation requirements and ensuring each college has one member serving on the council, along with an alternate. No further discussions or questions were raised regarding the Bylaw changes.

With no questions or discussion, Johar made a motion to approve the changes of the bylaws, and Gall seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

b. 2026-2027 Graduate Council Members

Chair Brown told the council members to notify the council secretary regarding who will be the college representative on the council next year.

c. Fall 2026 Interim Chair

Chair Brown announced her departure from the committee in the fall and introduced Lipford as the interim chair.

V. Other Business

a. Dean's Annual Review

Chair Brown presented feedback results from a survey regarding Dean Tolone's performance. Chair Brown noted that Libby and Murtha are preparing a summary for Provost Troyer. Chair Brown will share the complete written report with committee members once finalized.

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 18, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel Jones