

## Graduate Council Minutes

Friday, September 18, 2020

**Attendance:** Deb Benton, Gordon Brooks, Geoff Dabelko, Kaelyn Ferris, Andrea Frohne, Ann Frymier, Sara Helfrich, Arthur Hughes, Janet Hulm, Paul Jones, David Koonce, Joseph Lee, Sally Marinellie, Brian McCarthy, Greg Newton, Patrick O'Connor, Shawn Ostermann, Luke Pittaway, Beth Quitslund, Erik Ramsey, Andy Ray, Carol Schaumleffel, Joe Shields, Katie Tadlock, and Lijing Yang

**Excused:** Charlotte Elster, Andrew Fodor, Pete Harrington, Lesli Johnson, Assan Sarr, Kelley Walton

**Convened:** The meeting was convened at 3:04 P.M.

1. Approval of the minutes for the May 1, 2020 meeting

*Council Action: Approved*

2. Chair's Report: Gordon Brooks

Gordon welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the year and asked that everyone introduce themselves.

Gordon showed several helpful web pages to the council. These web pages share included the following:

- Standing committees web page

<https://www.ohio.edu/standing-committees/graduate-council>

- Graduate Council on the Graduate College site

<https://www.ohio.edu/graduate/staff/graduate-council>

- Graduate Catalog web page

<https://www.catalogs.ohio.edu/index.php?catoid=68>

- Faculty Handbook web page

<https://www.ohio.edu/faculty-senate/current-handbook>

- Faculty Senate Committees

<https://www.ohio.edu/faculty-senate/committees/ucc> and

- Graduate Student Awards and Fellowships

<https://www.ohio.edu/graduate/graduate-directors-webpage/graduate-student-award-and-fellowship-opportunities>

Gordon summarized the different Graduate Council committees.

- Policies and Regulations committee: reviews current policies and suggests updates as needed
- Curriculum committee: acts as a bridge committee with the UCC, it reviews new programs and changes to existing programs
- Program Review committee: reviews seven year program reviews from UCC
- Recruitment and Admissions Requirements committee: reviews issues pertaining to graduate admissions and conflict of interest cases for employees seeking graduate education
- Graduate Student Affairs and Fellowships committee: reviews the nominees for named fellowships, Council of Graduate Schools and Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools dissertation and thesis awards.

Following the meeting, Gordon announced that he will send out a survey to all council members about preferences for committee membership.

Gordon reminded everyone when using Teams the chat function is public and suggested the members keep that in mind when posting in the chat.

3. Graduate Student Senate Report: Kaelyn Ferris

GSS held their first general body meeting and the call for nominations in GSS has been completed.

GSS plans to continue their focus on advocacy this year.

4. Remarks by Dean of the Graduate College: Joe Shields

Joe announced some personnel changes in the Graduate College. Betty Kincade retired in the spring.

Luann Weisenbach has been hired as her replacement. Pamela Gordon retired as well. A search process is in place for her replacement.

Joe reminded the council of an alternative grading scheme that was developed for spring semester. Please note, a similar version will be in place for undergraduate students for fall semester, however, there will NOT be an alternative version for graduate students.

Joe updated the council on the process for spring curriculum scenario planning and this process will be ramping up soon. The spring semester will probably look much like the fall term.

5. Remarks by Associate Dean of the Graduate College: David Koonce

David Koonce shared enrollment numbers with the council.

	Fall 2019 Census	Fall 2020 Census	Delta
Athens E-Campus	2633	2791	158
Athens Main Campus	2282	1680	-602
Dublin	137	104	-33
Graduate Outreach	347	852	505
Grand Total	5399	5427	28

David mentioned the term “Graduate Outreach” is usually associated with regional campuses and the Graduate College thinks those in this category may have been coded incorrectly. The Graduate College is discussing this with those in the Office of the University Registrar. Based on the data, when including those undergraduate students who are enrolled in graduate courses, there are over 5,500 students studying at the graduate-level.

David announced that currently, there are approximately 1,000 applications for fall 2021. These numbers are on track with last year’s numbers. This reflects about a 7% increase from previous years.

David updated the council on the research restart. During Phase 1, 338 graduate students were approved/cleared to return to campus for research.

David reminded the council of the special summer extension process for students submitting theses and dissertations. This process has been extended through fall.

David announced that on September 10 and 11 the Chancellor’s Council of Graduate Schools (CCGS) retreat was held virtually. One of CCGS’s initiatives this year is to be more nimble with graduate programs and will likely include a relaxing of the process for online approvals. To be clear, this is likely to apply to masters’ programs moving online only. In other news, CCGS will be meeting once a month. All meetings will consider programs. Other issues will be addressed in an every-other-month format.

David mentioned that Graduate Council may need to consider what to do with the tuition scholarship if a student quits their assistantship after the first two-weeks.

David offered an update about international graduate students. Only 43 new international graduate students (only one out of the country) came to OHIO University this fall. Late in the process, the university offered Graduate Merit Scholarships to international graduate students who could not get into the US. These scholarships were awarded for fall only. OHIO University may need to consider offering something similar for spring.

David announced that the Graduate College is soliciting nomination materials for the MAGS Teaching and Thesis Awards. Becky will send information out about these awards soon.

6. Remarks by Assistant Dean of the Graduate College: Katie Tadlock

When processing deferrals from fall into spring, the Graduate College encountered a technical issue. This will be resolved soon, and the Graduate College can resume the process. If students have submitted a deferral request and are waiting for a response, assure them that we will resume the processing soon. If students have questions, please have them contact Katie Tadlock.

7. Remarks by Graduate College Faculty Fellow: Beth Quitslund

Curriculum clean-up will be done very soon.

8. Bridge/ Curriculum Committee: Sara Helfrich

Sara will be chairing this committee. For curriculum, currently there are no new programs to consider. As for the Bridge portion of this role, UCC met earlier this month for the first time this year.

Those who are considering this committee, please know you will have access to OCEAN to review the materials.

9. Program Review Committee: Lijing Yang

Most program reviews have been suspended due to the pandemic, however, Luke Pittaway mentioned that the College of Business will be doing their entire college review this year due to the requirements for accreditation.

10. Graduate Student Affairs and Fellowships Committee: Pete Harrington

On Pete's behalf, Gordon announced the many awards this committee reviews and made mention of the upcoming deadlines for the MAGS awards. Also, on Pete's behalf, Gordon recommended having a student on this committee.

11. Policies and Regulations Committee: Greg Newton

Greg outlined the items this committee oversees. Greg suggested a student sit on this committee as well. Projects may include things like continuous enrollment, although this is on hold for right now.

12. Recruitment and Admission Requirements Committee: Luke Pittaway

Luke announced this committee's need for a few additional members.

Also, the Admission Requirements Committee presented the conflict of interest reviews for final action by Graduate Council.

*Council Action: Graduate Council approved the committee's recommendations.*

13. Old Business

Nothing to report

14. New Business

Nothing to report

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 P.M.