

## Graduate Council Minutes

Friday, September 17, 2021

**Attendance:** Deb Benton, Gordon Brooks, David Brown, Geoff Dabelko, Howard Dewald, Charlotte Elster, Andrew Fodor, Andrea Frohne, Ann Frymier, Allyson Hallman-Thrasher, Peter Harrington, Arthur Hughes, Janet Hulm, David Koonce, Neil Littell, Sally Marinellie, Greg Newton, David Nguyen, Kimberlee Orben, Beth Quitslund, Andy Ray, Assan Sarr, Joe Shields, Katie Tadlock, Kelley Walton, Jessica Wingett, and Joseph Ziorklui

**Excused:** Melissa Bowlby, Lesli Johnson, Carol Schaumleffel, and Morgan Vis-Chiasson

**Convened:** The meeting began at 3:01 PM EDT.

1. Approval of the minutes for the April 30, 2021 meeting  
*Council action: Minutes were approved.*

2. Chair's Report: Gordon Brooks

Gordon welcomed everyone and announced the council composition for this year includes many new people and/or returning people in new roles.

Gordon reviewed that Graduate Council voted to advance a resolution about AGC to UCC at the last meeting. Gordon reminded the council that ELIP was eliminated and faculty members, who were in ELIP, are no longer at the university. Per Beth Quitslund - As a bridge solution, OPIE is providing some courses in oral and written communications. Per Joe Shields – There is a commitment to find a long-term solution at the leadership level.

Gordon offered an overview of the Graduate Council committees and introduced those who have agreed to lead these committees.

- Pete Harrington has agreed to return as chair of Graduate Student Affairs and Fellowships Committee.
- Greg Newton has agreed to continue to serve as chair of Policies and Regulations Committee.
- Andy Fodor has agreed to serve as chair of Recruitment and Admission Requirements Committee.
- There are two chair vacancies for the Bridge/Curriculum Committees and Program Review Committee.

Gordon announced that council members serve on at least one committee, and he will send out a committee interest survey inquiring about committee preferences. Once received, please complete as soon as possible. Committee assignments will be made once surveys have been completed.

Gordon shared the following about the council meetings.

- As a matter of process, since we are meeting virtually, votes will be taken as a show of hands, a feature on Teams.
- Gordon encouraged discussion and robust exchange during the meetings. Do not let Teams be off putting.

Gordon asked all in attendance to introduce themselves.

3. Graduate Student Senate (GSS) Report: Joseph Elikem Kofi Ziorklui  
Joseph announced that the first GSS meeting was held on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

The GSS goals for this year include:

- Developing a succession planning policy with an eye to GSS continuity,
- Exploring the idea of a peer mentorship program, and
- Continuing the fight of COVID.

4. Remarks by Dean of the Graduate College: Joe Shields  
Joe acknowledged and thanked Joseph Elikem Kofi Ziorklui for his willingness to lead GSS. Kaelyn Ferris, who was elected GSS president, accepted an internship, so stepped away from GSS presidency.

Joe informed the council of the following staffing changes for 2021 – 2022:

- Beth Quitslund is serving as Interim Associate Dean of the Graduate College,
- David Koonce is serving as the Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Education in the Russ College of Engineering & Technology, and
- A call for a faculty fellow went out recently and interviews will be scheduled soon.

Joe announced that Research and the Graduate College have relocated and are now in Grosvenor Hall.

5. Remarks by Interim Associate Dean of the Graduate College: Beth Quitslund  
Beth stated the Graduate College staff are trying to keep numbers of students in the office down and encouraged members to let students know that they should book appointments when coming to the Graduate College.

Beth shared the following fall census data:

College	Fall 2020 Census	Fall 2021 Census
Arts & Sciences	790	886
Business	1141	1079
Communication	238	193
Education	754	683
Engineering & Technology	505	471
Fine Arts	272	276
George Voinovich School	149	136
Graduate College	42	35
Health Sciences & Professions	1478	1570
International Studies	62	76
Grand Total	5431	5405

Beth clarified the CCGS accelerated graduate pathway reporting policy. Going forward institutions will submit a single institutional report instead of reporting at the departmental level.

Beth shared the Graduate College projects of focus for the coming year. They include:

- Forms workflow,
- Slate transition, and
- Reinitiating the continuous enrollment policy with an intent to implement in 2022 – 2023.

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

As a result of a conflict-of-interest challenge over the summer, Katie reminded the council that faculty members cannot seek a terminal degree from their college and cannot seek a degree in their own department.

Katie announced the Graduate College move to Slate of summer applications and beyond. She shared the benefits of Slate include that we can update the application content immediately, applicants get a lot more information, and the Graduate College staff can update the Slate web pages.

Katie informed the council of the successful completion of the September commencement ceremony.

7. Bridge/Curriculum Committees: Chair TBA

Gordon updated the council on the role of this committee. In addition, Gordon updated the council on the following program changes and asked for council comments:

Patton College of Education

ME6866: Program Name: Integrative Language Arts (Teacher Education)

- i. We are eliminating two 1-credit field courses because they will no longer be offered through ENG and because the students already have ample field hours through the college of education. Students only take one of these, so this lowers the overall credits from 46 to 45:
  1. ENG 5911 Field Experience in Secondary English/Language Composition
  2. ENG 5912 Field Experience in Secondary English/Literature
- ii. This change was made in consultation with Dr. Linda Rice, English Department Chair

*Council action: The council expressed no concerns about this program change.*

8. Program Review Committee: Chair TBA  
Gordon updated the council on the role of this committee. There is likely to be no programs to review until spring term.
9. Graduate Student Affairs and Fellowships Committee: Pete Harrington  
Gordon and Pete updated the council on the role of this committee. Pete requested that the web page outlining the awards and fellowships be updated as soon as possible and asked that PR about the thesis and teaching awards be distributed soon.
10. Policies and Regulations Committee: Greg Newton  
Greg updated the council on the role of this committee. This committee is responsible for helping the council formulate policy. The committee consults with peers throughout the state to stay aligned with policies established by other institutions.
11. Recruitment and Admission Requirements Committee: Andy Fodor  
Gordon updated the council on the role of this committee and identified some challenges encountered over the summer. Gordon suggested Faculty Senate may want to consider some revisions to the Faculty Handbook as it relates to conflict of interest.

*Katie brought the following COI cases for consideration.*

Recommended for Clearance

Sara Armstrong  
Carrie Burggraf  
Mychael Ihnat

David Jenkins  
Joshua Jones  
Jamie Lambert  
Lori Lammert  
Megan Murray  
Jill Nice  
John Roberts  
Samantha Rumley (Reese)  
Alyssa Skikus

*Council action: Council approved the summer ad hoc committee's recommendation of this group for clearance.*

Recommended for Clearance with Provisions

**Annie Bowen**

*Council action: Council approved the summer ad hoc committee's recommendation for clearance.*

**Courtney Koestler**

*Council action: Council approved the summer ad hoc committee's recommendation for clearance.*

**Carly Leatherwood**

*Council action: Council approved the summer ad hoc committee's recommendation for clearance.*

**Catherine Penrod**

*Council action: Council approved the summer ad hoc committee's recommendation for clearance.*

**Leslie Reichbaum**

*Council action: Council approved the summer ad hoc committee's recommendation for clearance.*

**Nilesh Washnik**

*Council action: Council approved provisional admission for the purposes of these two clinical hours.*

**Robert Wayner**

*Council action: Council tables this COI for consideration and has requested additional information. (More specific details needed: identify research, advisor, and course of study)*

**Laura Wentworth**

*Council action: Council approved provisional admission for non-degree status and taking a course in a department that is not Teacher Education.*

**Brooke Williams (Preston)**

*Council action: Council approved the summer ad hoc committee's recommendation for clearance.*

12. Old Business

Nothing to report

13. New Business

Nothing to report

The meeting was adjourned at 5:22 PM EDT.