

Graduate Council Minutes

Friday, November 4, 2022

Attendance: Jaxon Adams, Deb Benton, Melissa Bowlby, Gordon Brooks, Kübra Civan, Aimee Edmonson, Charlotte Elster, Ann Frymier, Gabe Giordano, Allyson Hallman-Thrasher, Janet Hulm, Lesli Johnson, David Koonce, David LaPalombara, Neil Little, Pete Maher, Greg Newton, Kimberlee Orben, Shawn Ostermann, Beth Quitslund, Thomas Raimondi, Andy Ray, Ani Ruhil, Courtney Silver-Peavy, Sam Smith, Eric Steinberg, Katie Tadlock, Jeremy Webster

Excused: Patrick Barr, David Brown, Lisa Harrison, Patrick O'Connor, and Kelley Walton

Convened: The meeting convened at 3:03 pm.

1. Approval of the minutes for the October 7, 2022 meeting
Action: Approved
2. Chair's Report: Ann Frymier
The technology is working for today's meeting.
3. Graduate Student Senate (GSS) Report: Kübra Civan
Election day – Both GSS and Student Senate have passed resolutions asking that students to be off for election day. Instructors can decide.
GSS working on searches – the Presidential search and others.
4. Remarks by Interim Dean of the Graduate College: David Koonce
David discussed the Conflict-of-Interest case from Chillicothe with their dean.
5. Remarks by Interim Associate Dean of the Graduate College: Greg Newton
 - Apps – Spring and Summer – we are behind last year at this same time.
 - We are at 60% spring apps as compared to last year
 - We are at 16% summer apps as compared to last year
 - Wiley conversion may have impacted online numbers.
 - COVID deferrals may have impacted the numbers
 - It is early, but for comparison, we may need to look at pre-COVID numbers.
6. Remarks by Assistant Dean of the Graduate College: Katie Tadlock
Commencement is on for December. Master and Doctoral students will be checking in at Grosvenor Hall, like last year. If you are escorting a doctoral student, check in at Grosvenor Hall. As has been recent practice, there will be no processional.
7. Remarks by Faculty Fellow: Allyson Hallman-Thrasher

The relationship between HEC with Pakistan has ended abruptly. The Pakistani government will not fund any students going forward. We hope they will fund those who are here, but it is unclear. We are not certain about those who deferred and those who are slated to arrive for spring. Colleges are struggling to figure out how to fund these students

8. Committees Updates

a. Graduate Student Affairs and Fellowships Committee: Kim Orben

i. MAGS Thesis Awards

There were two nominations submitted and Darby Libka was selected as the OHIO Nominee.

ii. MAGS Excellence in Teaching Award

OHIO Deadline is Friday, January 13, 2022

b. Policies and Regulations Committee – Neil Littell

i. Transitioning OGA from 1 credit hour to .5 credit hours to align with the policy.

Neil presented a motion to the council for consideration. The motion for discussion is to change the current online Graduate Appointment policy requiring 1 credit hour for a graduate appointment to requiring 0.5 credit hour to align with the continuous enrollment policy. Departments can choose differently, but the minimum would be registering for 0.5 credit hours. This will align the CE policy and the policy regarding graduate appointments.

Action: The council approved updating the Online Graduate Appointment process to recognize .5 credit hours as the minimum required number of hours (from 1 credit hour) for a student to be enrolled to be eligible for a stipend to align with the policy which was updated last academic year.

ii. Employee Registration for Graduate Degrees

Neil introduced this policy about employees registering for graduate programs.

Council Questions and Comments

- **Question:** The council raised the question about whether the policy includes classified staff.
Answer: No, the policy only currently includes faculty and salaried employees (presidential contracts).
- **Comment:** The council wants to make sure this includes only faculty for the grievance position
- **Question:** The council asked what is the appeal process for presidential contracts?
Answer: The Dean of Graduate College will address the

presidential contract appeals.

- **Comment:** The council also suggested included clearer definitions.

Action: Council endorses the revised statement and supports it moving forward to PRC.

c. Recruitment and Admission Requirements Committee: Janet Hulm

i. Conflict of Interest (COI) cases

- The committee brings to council for consideration and recommends approval of the following group with no identified conflict, thus no mitigation plans.
 - Heather Bambule,
 - Abigail Carter,
 - Jennifer Maskiell, and
 - Heather Wolf

Action: Council approves the committee's recommendation.

- The committee brings to the council for consideration the following mitigation plan recommending that Hayley Billett not work on any projects for instructors in her program.

Action: Council approves the committee's proposed mitigation plan.

9. Old Business
None

10. New Business
None

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Appendix A

F Academic Employee Registration for Graduate Degrees

All employees except senior administrators (vice presidents, vice provosts, associate provosts, and deans) are eligible to apply for admission to a graduate program or to nondegree status. Non-classified employees are subject to a conflict of interest review. The Dean of the Graduate College and the Graduate Council will review all applications for potential conflict of interest. If the Graduate Council determines that a conflict exists and cannot be satisfactorily mitigated, the employee shall not be admitted to a graduate program. It is the responsibility of the Dean of the Graduate College to see that this review takes place at the earliest possible meeting of Graduate Council.

No academic employee at or above the rank of Instructor, Research Assistant, or the equivalent may receive from the University the Master's Degree or the Doctor's Degree in any graduate program where the faculty member has membership, teaches courses, serves on Master's or Doctoral Committees, has, or is expected to have, other supervisory responsibilities which might give rise to conflicts of interest or the appearance of conflicts of interest. Non-classified staff at Ohio University may not enroll in a terminal degree program in the college or academic unit in which they are employed. Appeals regarding this policy follow the guidelines established in accordance with the "Faculty Grievance Committee" procedures (see Section II.G). If an appeal is successful, an academic employee's enrollment must still be cleared for conflict of interest by the Dean of the Graduate College and Graduate Council before the employee is eligible to be admitted into the program or enroll in any classes.

A non-classified employee at Ohio University who is admitted to a degree program or to nondegree status may normally register for no more than 8 hours per semester. A person wishing to register for 9 to 10 hours must have written approval from the graduate chair of his/her/their academic program and from the administrative supervisor their employee position. Full-time faculty and full-time administrators who obtain approval to register for 9 or 10 hours per semester may not receive a graduate stipend. Course loads taken during breaks in regular employment, however, such as summers for 9-month faculty, will be limited only by Graduate Catalog regulations. (Attention is also directed to the stipulations regarding residency requirements as stated in the Graduate Catalog and the Policy and Procedure Manual, [No. 40.016.](#))

If a student who is currently in a graduate degree program is offered a full-time appointment or changes appointments at the university, the situation shall be reviewed by the Dean of the Graduate College and the Graduate Council at the earliest possible date. The Graduate Council shall determine whether conflict of interest or unfair competition that might affect academic performance and evaluation would result from dual status as a student and an employee. If the Graduate Council determines that such a conflict would exist, they shall inform the student that he/she/they may not continue in their graduate program if he/she/they accept the position.