

MINUTES
Graduate Studies Executive Committee
Tuesday, October 3, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.
Provost's Conference Room, Derryberry Hall, Room 200

Members Present

Dr. Michael Burdick—Chair
Mr. Tymothy Brandel
Dr. Alice Camuti
Dr. Dan Combs
Dr. William Eberle
Dr. Dennis Tennant
(for Mike Gotcher)
Dr. Stacey Browning
(for Dr. Kimberly Hanna)
Ms. Mary Lou Fornehed
(for Dr. Barbara Jared)
Dr. Steve Sharp
(for Dr. Hayden Mattingly)
Dr. Allan Mills
Dr. Julie Pharr
Dr. Michael Phillips
Dr. Bedelia Russell (non-voting)
Dr. Darron Smith
Dr. Jeremy Wendt
Dr. Lisa Zagumny
Dr. Samantha Hutson
Dr. Steve Isbell
Dr. Tony Michael
Dr. Thomas Payne
Mr. Yixing Wang
Mr. Eli Anderson
Ms. Michele Niec

Members Absent

Ms. Rachel Craighead
Ms. Holly Mills (non-voting)
Dr. Joseph Slater
Dr. John Zhu
Dr. Joseph Ojo
Dr. Mark Stephens—Executive Officer

Other Attendees

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1. Approval of the agenda.

Motion to approve the agenda: Dr. Lisa Zagumny

Seconded by: Dr. Jeremy Wendt

Comments/Amendments: None

The Committee voted and the motion was: **Approved by: All**; Opposed by: None.

2. Approval of the minutes from the July 11, 2023 meeting (September meeting cancelled, no items).

Motion to approve the agenda: Dr. Lisa Zagumny

Seconded by: Dr. Stacey Browning

Comments/Amendments: None

The Committee voted and the motion was: **Approved by: All**; Opposed by: None.

3. Request from the College of Interdisciplinary Studies, School of Environmental Studies: Graduate admission policy change.

Motion to approve the agenda: Dr. Lisa Zagumny

Seconded by: Ms. Mary Lou Fornehed

Comments/Amendments: Dr. Steve Sharp presented proposal to remove GRE requirement from admission policy for School of Environmental Studies referencing its irrelevance. No questions or additional comments.

The Committee voted and the motion was: **Approved by: All**; Opposed by: None.

4. Request from the College of Arts and Science, Department of English: Advisor approved elective addition.

Motion to approve the agenda: Dr. Lisa Zagumny

Seconded by: Dr. Steven Isbell

Comments/Amendments: Dr. Linda Null presented request to include a PC elective option to PTC M.A., identifying it as more in line with program. Question asked about effect on Thesis students, Dr. Linda Null stated that it will not have any effect.

The Committee voted and the motion was: **Approved by: All**; Opposed by: None.

5. Request from the College of Engineering, Department of Computer Science: Program modification. Ph.D. in Engineering with a concentration in Computer Science to be elevated and catalog update to reflect change.

Motion to approve the agenda: Dr. Stacey Browning

Seconded by: Dr. Darron Smith

Comments/Amendments: Dr. William Eberle presented the need to elevate the Engineering Ph.D. concentration of Computer Science to its own Ph.D. Identifying the lack of acceptance of the concentration by the workforce and academia. The program will not change. Dr. Bedelia Russell asked about the college their process to come to this decision. Dr. Eberle spoke about how relatively young the program is and that it is still evolving. It does not have an effect of their number of Ph.D. programs across the departments.

The Committee voted and the motion was: **Approved by: All**; Opposed by: None.

6. Request from the College of Business Graduate Office: Course description change.

Motion to approve the agenda: Dr. Zagumny

Seconded by: Dr. Darron Smith

Comments/Amendments: Dr. Julie Pharr presented course description change for MBA 6980-International Experience for clarification (faculty-led, short-term travel-study experience, must be MBA student, credit only once).

The Committee voted and the motion was: **Approved by: All**; Opposed by: None.

7. Informational Items

Motion to approve the agenda: N/A

Seconded by: N/A

Comments/Amendments: Dr. Alice Camuti shared an update about the new graduate catalog, if any errors, contact graduate studies. Also shared an update about the new admissions program, SLATE, in which all applicants are now loaded and using. Shelia Kendrick is working on department instructions and file review.

The Committee voted and the motion was: **Approved by: All**; Opposed by: None.

8. Other Matters: None

9. Adjourn

Motion to approve the agenda: Dr. Darron Smith

Seconded by: Dr. Stacey Browning

Comments/Amendments: None

The Committee voted and the motion was: **Approved by: All**; Opposed by: None.

Submitted by: College of Graduate Studies