

Meeting Minutes
Graduate Studies Executive Committee
Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 3:00pm
President's Conference Room, Derryberry

Members Present

Dr. Julie C. Baker—Executive Officer
Dr. Alice Camuti—Ex-Officio
Dr. Steve Isbell—Chair
Dr. Ashley Akenson
Dr. William Eberle
Dr. Mike Gotcher
Dr. Rachel Hall
Dr. Katherine Hermann-Turner
Dr. Samantha Hutson
Dr. Barbara Jared
Dr. Thomas Payne
Dr. Julie Pharr
Dr. David Mann
 for Dr. Michael Phillips
Dr. Darron Smith
Dr. Bedelia Russell (non-voting)
Dr. Jeremy Wendt
Dr. Kit Wheeler
Dr. Karen Wright (non-voting)
Dr. Lisa Zagumny
McKenna Stevens
Braxton Westbrook

Members Absent

Dr. Alfred Kalyanapu
Dr. Hayden Mattingly
Dr. Allan Mills
Dr. Joseph Slater
Dr. John Zhu
Kashaina Nucum
Michele Niec

Other Attendees

Karen Warren
Lucinda Morabito
Stephanie Flores
Tammy Dodson
Dr. Doug Talbert
Dr. Jinfa Zhang
Dr. Michael Nattrass
Dr. Motoya Machida
Dr. Susmit Shannigrahi

1. Approval of the agenda.

Motion to approve the agenda: Dr. Zagumny

Seconded by: Dr. Smith

Comments/Amendments: Item 5, proposals by the Department of Curriculum and Instruction will be moved to the next meeting.

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

2. Approval of the minutes of the February 3, 2026, meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes: Dr. Zagumny

Seconded by: Dr. Smith

Comments/Amendments: None

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

3. Request for exception to university policy for [REDACTED]

Motion to approve the request: Dr. Zagumny

Seconded by: Dr. Smith

Comments/Amendments: [REDACTED]

The Committee voted and the motion was: Approved by: All present (17) Denied by: 0

4. Proposal by the College of Engineering, Department of Computer Science to add three new courses: CSC 6900 Graduate Internship, CSC 6100 Professionalism in Industry, and AI 5200 Deep Learning. Effective Fall 2026

Motion to approve the request: Dr. Zagumny

Seconded by: Dr. Smith

Comments/Amendments: Dr. Shannigrahi stated that CSC 6900 and 6100 course additions will be an option inside the MS program to have more industry connection. AI 5200 is a cross-listed course which has already been approved at the undergraduate level.

The department would like to add the 'AI' prefix to the elective course options for both the MS and PhD programs within Degree Works.

Dr. Baker mentioned that there has been discussion at the UCC meeting about ownership of course subject (prefix) codes. Currently, course prefix codes are not 'owned' or restricted to a department. As a courtesy, departments usually develop their own prefixes and do not use the prefixes of another department.

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

5. Proposal by the College of Education and Human Sciences, Department of Curriculum and Instruction to add CUED 7005 Autoethnography, delete SPED 6810 Pract and Sem in SPED, and edit the course description or prerequisite for the following courses: ESLP 5100, ESLP 5200, ESOL 6100, ESOL 6200, LSCI 6800, LSCI 7800. Effective Fall 2026.

This proposal was moved to the March 31, 2026 GSEC meeting.

6. Proposal by the College of Education and Human Sciences, Department of Counseling and Psychology to add COUN 7770 Scale Constr. & Psychometrics and to edit COUN 6380 Multicultural Counseling. Effective Fall 2026.

Motion to approve the request: Dr. Zagumny

Seconded by: Dr. Smith

Comments/Amendments: Dr. Hermann-Turner stated that the edit to COUN 6380 is more in line with current standards. COUN 7770 will be added to the doctoral program of study.

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

7. Proposal by the College of Education and Human Sciences, Department of Counseling and Psychology to edit the program of study and increase the program credit hours for the Counseling and Supervision PhD from 48 to 60. Effective Fall 2026 ***AC**

Motion to approve the request: Dr. Zagumny

Seconded by: Dr. Smith

Comments/Amendments: Dr. Hermann-Turner stated that an increase in credit hours for the doctoral program from 48 to 60 credit hours is a result of new accreditation standards and will be effective July 2026. The increase will be in research hours as well as adding COUN 7770 (3 credit hours). Doctoral degree credit hour requirements will be 60 hours beyond the master's degree requirements.

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

8. Proposal by the College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Mathematics to add MATH 5810 Intro to Quantum Computing. Effective Fall 2026.

Motion to approve the request: Dr. Zagumny

Seconded by: Dr. Smith

Comments/Amendments: Dr. Machida stated that the course has been taught as a special topics course and the department would like to make it permanent and eligible for Fast Track students.

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

9. Proposal by the College of Agriculture and Human Ecology, School of Agriculture to add a Fast Track option for students interested in the MS in Agriculture Technology. Effective Fall ***AC** 2026

Motion to approve the request: Dr. Zagumny

Seconded by: Dr. Smith

Comments/Amendments: Dr. Natrass proposed adding a Fast Track option to the School of Agriculture. With the new master's program (Agriculture Technology), having a Fast Track option may encourage undergraduate students to continue their graduate studies at Tech. Requirements to participate are in-line with other Fast Track programs on campus.

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

10. Informational Items: as reminder, we will have a second meeting this month, on March 31st. It will be the last meeting for items to go to THEC for the next academic year. In addition, any new catalog changes to the 2026-2027 catalog will have to be approved at the March 31st meeting.

11. Other Matters: None

12. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn: All

Comments/Amendments: None

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

Minutes prepared by S. Flores, reviewed by Dr. A. Camuti, approved by GSEC on March 31, 2026.