

**Graduate Council
Minutes
January 15, 2021**

The Graduate Council met on Friday, January 15, 2021 at 1:00 pm via ZOOM.

Members present: J. Bowers-Campbell, J. Campbell, D. Carnes, J. Carzoli, M. Claxton, B. Gehrig, Y. Hillon, D. Hudson (J. Carzoli proxy), B. Kloeppe, E. McCoy, T. Orr, C. Parrish, A. Perry, S. Rader, H. Rimes, M. Snyder, A. Storm, A. Stuckey, Y. Yan and P. Yanik

Members absent: L. Hammer, R. Laboray and F. Razzaghi

Others present: E. Frazier, A.J. Grube and H. Grappendorf

Approval of the Minutes Motion and second to approve the minutes for the November 6, 2020 meeting. Motion passed.

Program Updates

The Psy.D. program submitted an accreditation self-study in October.

The MPA program will have an accreditation site visit on March 15th and 16th. The MPA program will be sending students to the County Managers Conference.

The Graduate Student Association (GSA) is still analyzing the graduate student satisfaction survey results. GSA reported that the Graduate Student Association constitution has been updated. GSA is discussing how to spend travel grant funds in the 2021 spring term.

Academic Policy and Graduate Faculty Review

The following persons were approved by the Graduate Faculty Review Committee as members of the graduate faculty and came as a seconded motion for approval and were approved.

Dr. Lauryn Mascarenaz	Human Services	Affiliate
Mr. Daniel Mancuso	Human Services	Affiliate
Ms. Susanne Swanger	Human Services	Affiliate
Ms. Angela Knight	Human Services	Affiliate

Approved.

Curriculum Review

The following curriculum items were reviewed by the Curriculum Committee and came as a seconded motion for approval and were approved.

Human Resources (MS) (Change in admission requirements)

Explanation: As a result of our 2020 WCU Graduate Program Review, the review team along with the MSHR Advisory Board recommended the program consider eliminating or revising the GRE requirement. Thus, the following new admission requirements are being proposed (they are similar to several other WCU graduate programs).

Required of ALL applicants to the M.S. Degree Program in Human Resources:

All undergraduate (and graduate if applicable) transcripts. We seek overall GPAs of 3.0 or above (applicants with GPAs below the 3.0 may still be admitted with acceptable GRE scores or HR job experience as described below).

A one (1) page essay describing why you are pursuing a career in Human Resources on why you believe you are a "good fit" with the mission and curriculum focus of the WCU MSHR program.

Three (3) references (from former professors or job supervisors strongly recommended)

Applicants with overall GPAs below the 3.0 we seek may still be admitted into the program if one of the two additional conditions are met:

A minimum of three (3) years of full-time HR work experience—OR:

*GRE scores of at least a score of 150 on the Verbal Reasoning, a score of 141 on the Quantitative Reasoning and an analytical writing score of 3.5.

*If extenuating circumstances prevent GRE testing, an applicant may be admitted conditionally, requiring GRE scores to be submitted within one semester.

Approved.

HR 677 – Digital Human Resources and People Analytics (New course creation)

Explanation: The objective of this course is to provide students with a solid foundation of what the rise of new vendors incorporating AI and machine learning means to HR and how to consider building such tools into their digital HR strategy. It also aims to provide students with a solid foundation of what the term ‘digital’ means for a progressive HR function, along with a solid foundation of what assessments are and when they should be used.

Approved.

CSD 550 – Introduction to Audiology (New course creation)

Explanation: The program enrolls students from outside the discipline. Graduate students who do not have the prerequisites specific to CSD courses are required to take additional coursework in order to acquire knowledge and skills for certification. This course has been offered for undergraduate credit with additional requirements for graduate students. It was determined this would best be offered for graduate credit.

Approved.

Financial Assistance

No update from the Chair of the Financial Assistance Committee.

The Financial Assistance Committee will review the summer assistantship guidelines and process and will review the summer assistantship applications in March.

Dean Report

Spring 2021 Enrollment Update

Dean Kloeppe reported on the graduate enrollment report for the Spring 2021 term distributed to the Graduate Council. Census will occur on Friday 05 February 2021.

Currently, 1688 graduate students are enrolled. The goal for the 2021 Spring term is 1685 enrolled. SCHs for Spring 2021 are up 600 credit hours over last year.

There are 22 graduate programs with enrollment even or above last year, and 9 programs 5 or more lower than last year.

Slate Software Installation Update

Graduate School in coordination with the undergraduate Admissions Office is implementing a new application and CRM platform called Slate.

Graduate application entry into Slate began November 1st and will continue for one year. As graduate programs transition from Apply Yourself to Slate, graduate program directors and staff will be notified and trained in Slate by Associate Dean Joy Bowers-Campbell.

As of January 15th, fifty-seven program applications became available in Slate. Conversion has gone smoothly except for the challenge of converting so many program applications on January 15th.

Graduate Excellence Award Replacement Programs

The Master of Public Affairs program and M.S. Experiential and Outdoor Education program were selected as the two replacement programs to receive the Graduate Excellence Awards. Seven applications were received and reviewed and Provost Starnes was consulted on the final program selections.

Associate Dean Report

The virtual 2021 Graduate Research Symposium is scheduled during the week of the virtual Research and Scholarship Conference March 22-26. The 2021 Graduate Research Symposium website is not available yet, but students can register by February 11 to present their research, participate in the poster presentation or submit a research paper.

The virtual research poster presentation will include three minutes of narration. The oral presentation videos will include faculty follow up and a live roundtable discussion via Zoom with students. Registration will be required for these sessions. The upload period for the poster presentations and the oral presentations is February 12 to March 5.

All Graduate Research Symposium activities will launch from the website.

Agenda

Potential Sport Management Collaboration with NCCU Law School (AJ Grube)

<http://law.nccu.edu/academics/joint-degree-program/>

Dr. A.J. Grube, Dean of the College of Business, and Dr. Heidi Grappendorf the Program Director for Sport Management presented an idea to the Graduate Council for a collaboration/partnership with the NCCU Law School. The Sport Management program stated the advantages of diversity and capacity in Sport Management courses to support the collaboration.

There are two issues in the Graduate School transfer of credit policy that the Sport Management program wanted to discuss with the Graduate Council. The Graduate Council supported the idea of the collaboration/partnership with the NCCU Law School by agreeing to an exception to the transfer of credit policy without making a change to the Graduate School transfer of credit policy.

Financial Aid asked a question about what institution would be the home institution for financial aid purposes. The response was that NCCU would be the home institution.

Summer Research Assistantships

The summer assistantship application will become available in early-February. Funding for summer assistantships varies from year to year so the stipend and number of assistantships cannot be determined prior to the application period. The summer assistantship employment period is May 17 to June 30, 2021.

Graduate Council discussed the suggestion that summer assistantship faculty advisors receive a stipend. Graduate Council was supportive, but some members expressed concern if the stipend was

paid from assistantship funds taken from students.

Graduate Assistantships

Graduate School allocated 2021-22 Graduate Assistantships and tuition remissions on December 18, 2020.

Graduate programs are encouraged to seek external funding to provide additional and/or larger graduate assistantships.

Graduate Council Agenda Topics

Please send Dean Kloeppel Graduate Council agenda topics for the 2020-21 academic year.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Submitted by – Elizabeth Frazier

Please note: All attachments are on file in the Graduate School with the Graduate Council meeting minutes.