

**Graduate Council
Minutes
August 19, 2022**

The Graduate Council met by Zoom on Friday, August 19, 2022 at 1:00 pm.

Members present: J. Black, D. Carnes, J. Deziel, D. Dorondo, N. Granda-Marulanda, L. Hammer, H. Grappendorf, B. Karayaka, M. Kennedy, B. Kloeppel, R. Laboray, T. Orr, H. Rimes, M. Snyder, D. Solomon, A. Storm, A. Stuckey, C. Thomas, A. Trombley, and E. Virtue

Members absent: J. Bowers-Campbell, J. Carzoli, C. Parrish, C. Perrine, and P. Yanik

Others present: E. Frazier, L. Anderson, and Mariano Garrido-Lopez

Approval of the Minutes Motion and second to approve the minutes for the March 18, 2022 meeting. Passed.

Program Updates

The College of Health and Human Sciences reported they are revising their mission statement, vision statement and strategic plan.

Psychology received APA accreditation.

Graduate School orientation sessions attendance increased over last year.

Hunter Library reported that the project to digitize thesis/dissertations/disquisitions will be a six-year plan. The project will begin this year.

Nursing reported that the DNP program will be having an accreditation review in the 2022 fall term. Also, Nursing has a retreat planned to discuss how to take care of one another and plans to share the retreat outcomes.

The College of Education and Allied Professions (CEAP) received fellowship funding for the MSA and EDD programs. CEAP highlighted the Cognitive Neuroscience lab and the Social Psychology lab.

Dean Lori Anderson reported on behalf of the Enrollment Strategies Committee. The committee wants a larger faculty voice and will keep an eye on enrollment.

Standing Committee Formation

Updates will be made to the committee membership lists, and the updated committee document will be distributed to Graduate Council members by e-mail.

Academic Policy and Graduate Faculty Review

The following persons were nominated for Affiliate Graduate Faculty Status but were not reviewed and approved by the Graduate Faculty Review Committee. The nominations were tabled for review by the Graduate Faculty Review Committee.

Dr. Joanne Murphy	History	Affiliate
Dr. Juan Ramirez	Human Services	Affiliate
Dr. Antonio De La Garza	Human Services	Affiliate
Dr. Bernard Lohr	Biology	Affiliate

Curriculum Review

There were no Curriculum items to review.

Curriculum Committee Chair Elect

Dr. Angie Trombley volunteered to be Chair Elect for the Curriculum Committee.

APRC and University Curriculum Committee representatives

Curriculum Committee members Dr. David Solomon, Curriculum Committee Chair, and Dr. Angie Trombley, Curriculum Committee Chair Elect, will serve on the University Curriculum Committee.

Dr. Heather Rimes will serve on the Faculty Senate Academic Policy and Review (APRC) Committee as the Graduate Council representative.

Financial Assistance

The Financial Assistance Committee will be reviewing graduate assistantship stipends and will make recommendations to the Dean of the Graduate School by October 1.

Information about assistantship stipends at WCU and at other institutions will be collected for review and comparison.

An increase to the graduate assistantship budget is unlikely so any recommended stipend increases could reduce the number of assistantships allocated.

Dean Report

Fall 2022 Enrollment Summary

The Fall 2022 Enrollment Summary was distributed to the Graduate Council.

Point in time enrollment for Fall 2022 is 1,726 and SCHs equal 14,600. Drop for nonpayment will occur at 5:00 p.m. on August 26th.

Virtual Open House Update

[Virtual Open House](#) dates have been scheduled through August 2023 (please see link).

A Graduate Council member requested a dedicated virtual Open House for International students. It was also suggested that a staff member from the Office of Global Engagement attend this open house.

UNC System ROI Study

A handout explaining the UNC System ROI Study was distributed to the Graduate Council. The UNC System will be collecting and evaluating the ROI study data in the 2022 fall term and will report the study outcomes late in the fall term or early in the spring term. All programs in the UNC System will be reviewed.

Agenda

Program Director Workshops

Three Program Director workshops are scheduled for September 7th and 8th. One workshop is scheduled for Biltmore Park, one workshop is scheduled for Cullowhee and one workshop is scheduled on-line.

Thesis Resource Webpage and Workshops

The [Thesis Resource Webpage](#) and Workshops can be accessed using this link.

Discussion of Bad Grades from a Previous Program

Dr. Mariano Garrido Lopez from the College of Business presented two recent cases of students who received old bad grades and reapplied to a graduate business program (MBA and Innovation and Entrepreneurship).

Current Graduate School catalog policy includes all graduate level grades earned in the graduate cumulative GPA.

The Graduate Council discussed the policy and provided suggested changes and scenarios. The Graduate Council discussed the six-year time limit, old bad grades earned in a different program, and elective credit policy concerns.

Larry Hammer, Registrar, added the following information to the discussion.

- All grades must appear on the transcript.
- There is no grade replacement at the graduate level.
- For grades earned not to count in the cumulative GPA a grade forgiveness policy would need to be passed.

Trina Orr, Financial Aid Director, shared that the Financial Aid Office would need to see all grades and the cumulative GPA to evaluate academic progress. Financial Aid academic progress requires a 3.0 cumulative GPA and at least 67 percent of credits earned for enrolled credit hours.

A policy proposal will be drafted and reviewed by the Policy Committee. The Policy Committee will present a proposal and findings to the Graduate Council.

Future Agenda Topics

Discussion regarding enrollment in a graduate degree program and a graduate certificate program at the same time.

Number of total credits an undergraduate student is allowed to take and apply to an Accelerated Bachelor's to master's program (ABM).

Allowing transfer credit from a previously earned graduate degree.

Discuss total transfer credit policy limits.

Discuss allowing "C" grade courses for transfer credit.

Graduate Council Agenda Topics

Please send Dean Kloeppel Graduate Council agenda topics for the 2022-23 academic year.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Submitted by – Elizabeth Frazier

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