

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Members/Alternates Present:

Godev, Concepcion, Chair – Languages & Culture Studies
Allan, Craig – Geography and Earth Sciences
Brown, Dace – Public Health Sciences
Chattopadhyay, Jackie – Alternate, Political Science and Public Administration
Cooper, Liz – Bioinformatics and Genomics
Dow, Alan – Alternate for Montanaro, Mathematics & Statistics,
Lai, Gene – Finance
McAdams, Jeff – Atkins Library, Engineering Librarian
Mukherjee, Pinku – Interim Dean, Graduate School
Rasmussen, Monica – GPSG Student Representative

Also Attending: Hague, Doug – School of Data Science
Hall Hertel, Katherine – Graduate School
Johar, Monica - BISOM
Krause, Sandy – Graduate School
Morse, Janet – Graduate School
Wyse, Matt – Faculty Governance

Absent: Lachance, Joan – MDSK, attending a conference
Sarkar, Kaus – Dance, attending a conference

I. **Report of the Chair – Dr. Concepcion Godev**

Chair Godev opened the meeting.

A. Approval of the October 3, 2023 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Allan to approve the minutes as submitted with a second from Lai. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Chair Godev welcomed Adam Reitzel, Biological Sciences for attending as the interim member for the newly organized College of Science. Historically, CLAS, formerly three colleges, had three representatives because of the diversity in programs. Then they merged into one college, The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS). Now CLAS has been split into two colleges, the College of Science and the College of Humanities, and Earth and Social Sciences.

Chair Godev factored in the number of graduate programs across colleges to use in determining the number of members representing CHESS. She found the following:

Engineering - 11 Master's programs and four doctoral programs.
Education – 21 Master's programs and four doctoral programs
CHESS – 15 Master's programs and four doctoral programs

What is the opinion of the Council on how many representatives CHES should be assigned? We, as a Council, could weigh in on what would be a fair representation with the committee researching this in Faculty Governance.

II. Report of the Graduate School Dean – Dr. Pinku Mukherjee

- The Provost has approved funding for more mentor/mentee training.
- The competition for the Harshini V. deSilva Award has just closed.
- The First Citizens Bank Scholars Award will be closing soon.
- The Graduate School has been given more space on the first floor of Reese.

III. Discussion Topics

A. Report from the Syllabus Review Committee – Joan Lachance and Kaus Sarkar

- B. Graduate Student Parental Leave Policy – minor edit – Katherine Hall-Hertel
Hall-Hertel provided a document which includes a minor revision to the policy language. Addition is the following:

To be eligible for leave, students must be enrolled and employed in an assistantship.

A discussion took place with a few questions:

1. Are students covered by insurance while on leave?
2. How is this communicated to PI's and are PI's able to hire someone else?
3. Leslie Zenk has done some benchmarking on research funding.
4. Hall-Hertel to provide a resource link to answer these questions.

A motion was made to approve the revised policy by Lai with a second from Allan. The proposal was approved by a unanimous vote.

IV. Course and Curriculum Proposals

- A. Geography, PhD Graduate Program Revision
Originator: Isabelle Nilsson, Geography and Earth Sciences
Committee Members: All members

After a brief discussion, the Graduate Council was satisfied with the comments.

A motion was made by Cooper to approve the proposal as submitted with a second from Brown. The proposal was approved by a unanimous vote.

- B. Second Reading: PhD, Data Science (New Graduate Degree Program)
Originator: Jean-Claude Thill – Geography and Earth Sciences
Committee Members: All Committee members

- At the first reading of this proposal on October 3, 2023, the Graduate Council requested a few minor revisions to the proposal and to see consultations from effected departments.

Those revisions and additions have been satisfied and we are now waiting on the proposal to reach the Graduate Council step in the Curriculog workflow.

Allan made a motion to approve the proposal with the submitted revisions with a second from Dow. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

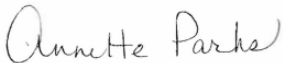
V. **Other Business**

There being no other business, Allan made a motion to adjourn with a second from Lai. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:34pm.

Next Meeting: December 5, 2023
12:30-2:00pm – Reese 211

Respectfully,



Annette Parks
Graduate Council Secretary