



The Graduate School

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

May 11th, 2020

The Graduate Council met virtually on Monday, May 11, 2020 at 2:00 P.M.

Graduate Council members present: Dr. Tom Regan, Chair; Drs. Suzanne Adlof, Matt Boylan, Bobby Brame, Maks Chruszcz, Sharon DeWitte, Robin DiPietro, Jean Ellis, Elise Ince, Hippokratis Kiaris, Jim Mensch, Spencer Platt, Nikki Wooten, Songhua Xu, and Jennifer Mandelbaum, GSA Representative.

Graduate Council members absent: Drs. Nate Bell, Ron Benner, Joanna Casey, Rick Creswick, and Sirivatch Shimpalee.

Graduate School Representatives: Dr. Cheryl Addy, Dr. Murray Mitchell (Secretary), Dr. Heather Brandt, Dale Moore, and Wanda Barr.

Provost Office Representatives: Trena Houp

Guests: Dr. Shana Harrington (Physical Therapy), Dr. Carmen Maye (Journalism and Mass Communications), Dr. Stephen Shapiro (Sport and Entertainment Management), Dr. Todd Shaw (Political Science), and Dr. Sheryl Wiskur (Chemistry and Biochemistry), Dr. Michelle Hardee (Center for Teaching Excellence), and Sudipta Saha (Graduate Student Association)

NOTE: These minutes will become final on August 24, 2020 if not challenged.

1. **Call to Order and Approval of Agenda** (Tom Regan, Chair)
The meeting was called to order at 2:08pm and the Agenda was approved.
2. **Approval of the [Minutes from April 27, 2020](http://app.gradschool.sc.edu/gradcouncil/minutes.asp)**. Approved actions by Graduate Council become effective 30 days after posting. A copy is available on the Graduate School website at: <http://app.gradschool.sc.edu/gradcouncil/minutes.asp>
3. **Report of the Chair** (Tom Regan)
No report.
4. **Report of the Dean of Graduate School** (Cheryl Addy)

Dr. Addy reported that she has been heavily involved with our campus future planning group process and dealing with the hiring freeze. She is reviewing every hiring transaction for hourly graduate students and for faculty, and a few other things along the way. We have all heard the announcement that we will be returning to campus in the fall in a much-blended format.

An almost finalized communication will go out to the Deans this week that will basically say this is what you are working with. It will provide a complete list of classes and the section levels. It will list the schedule, list the parameters, and advise that they change as needed to accommodate what needs to be on-line and what can be blended. They are trying to give guidance regarding social distancing, and they are trying to figure out if they can make wearing mask a requirement or not. There are lot questions and decisions right now, but it is moving rapidly. The recommendation at this point is that the official schedule not be changed regarding start and ending dates, but there will be some changes on the day-to-day schedule to maximize safety to hopefully get through the semester in as healthy a manner as possible for students and for faculty/staff.

Dr. Addy is very pleased that our enrollment for continuing graduate students is actually looking very good right now. It is a little higher right now than it was this time last year. Being registered does not mean paying tuition and showing up. Whatever you have been doing in your departments and programs, please continue to do so to encourage your students to return.

She has approved a message that will go out from ISS and Global Carolina. They are asking that everyone to encourage our international graduate students to try to get their visas for this fall. Most countries do not have a travel ban right now. We understand the visa approval appointments will be a slower process. We will be as flexible as possible to work with international students who might arrive a week or two after the fall semester start date due to visa issues.

There has been more transparency and communication over these past weeks than there has been in quite some time on this campus. There will be no campus classes with more than 100 students. Any classes larger than 100 must be taught on-line. There will be guidance. Some classes will meet on campus and some will be offered on-line in an attempt to maintain as much social distancing as possible. The reality is that the schedule will be rebuilt; and in many cases, students may have to possibly be re-advised and re-register if their previous schedule no longer works.

Any student or employee who does not feel comfortable coming back to campus will not be penalized for not doing so. The idea is to maintain some level of remote working. They are working on safety standards, and they will be providing PPE where needed. The effectiveness depends on compliance.

5. **Report of the Secretary of the Graduate Council** (Murray Mitchell)

Dr. Mitchell advised that there are several members rotating off of the Council with this as their final meeting of the academic year. We generally acknowledge the departure with our thanks and a token of appreciation. Unfortunately, the token will have to wait for our return to campus, but, our thanks to:

Bobby Brame

Maksymilian Chruszcz
Rick Creswick
Jean Ellis
Tom Regan
Sirivatch Shimpalee
Jennifer Mandelbaum, GSA representative

As we make the transition from academic year 2019-20, to 2020-21, there are four related items for your consideration—three of these items require a vote of the council members. The first item is simply that today will be our final meeting under the leadership of our Chair, Tom Regan. Our Vice Chair, Jim Mensch, will rotate into these duties as of our first meeting in August. As Jim vacates the Vice Chair position, we need to fill that position and that brings us to the second item that requires your action. We have a nominee for the vice chair position: Dr. Nikki Wooten of Social Work. For your information, here are the related duties:

1. If the Chair is absent from a Council meeting, the vice chair steps in to run the meeting (with assistance from me).
2. The vice chair serves as chair of the Academic Policy and Practices Committee—this group meets only to consider editorial and/or change proposals to graduate policies and practices; the 'load' on this committee is unpredictable. He provides support, and meetings, if needed, are called at the convenience of committee members.
3. The vice chair serves in this position for one year and then rotates into the position of chair of the Graduate Council in the second year.

There were no additional nominees for vice chair.

This nominee was unanimously approved by Graduate Council

The third item of business is a procedural question. The Faculty Manual does not address membership criteria for the Graduate Council. The Graduate Council Manual does stipulate that membership is limited to one representative per department. As a general rule, we have been attentive to this stipulation. Over the past few years, acquiring broad representation of graduate faculty who are willing and able to participate and contribute to the Graduate Council, has become a larger challenge. He is asking because he has a qualified nominee to present momentarily who is in a separate program within a large and relatively diverse department. To that end, he would ask for your discussion and then consideration of allowing representation from two different programs within the same department. Part of that discussion would be to consider denying this request, making an exception for this election, or amending the requirement to programs rather than to departments as a more permanent change.

A motion and a second was made and approved to amend the general rule to have two members of the same department represent on the Graduate Council for the academic year of 2020-2021. This amendment to the general rule will be revisited later.

As mentioned earlier, we have 6 faculty openings and a Graduate Student Association position to fill. He has confirmed eligibility and availability of these nominees. Nominees are invited but not required to attend this meeting. A vote is required to affirm membership on the Graduate Council. Nominees are:

1. Shana Harrington – Physical Therapy
2. Carmen Maye – Journalism and Mass Communications
3. Stephen Shapiro – Sport and Entertainment Management
4. Todd Shaw – Political Science
5. Sheryl Wiskur – Chemistry and Biochemistry
6. TBA – He is still seeking a qualified candidate for this final position.

Sudipta Saha – Graduate Student Association (already elected by that body).

These nominations were unanimously approved by Graduate Council

Finally, we will need representation on various committees for next academic year, too. The chair of each committee must be a Graduate Council member, but, additional committee members do not have to be Graduate Council members. If you have a desire to serve on one of these committees, please let him know; or, if you know other graduate faculty in your program who may be interested in serving, if you will identify them for him, he will happily reach out to them with more details on the committee(s) and an invitation to serve. For your information, the five standing committees are:

1. Humanities, Social Sciences, Education and Related Professional Programs Committee
 2. Science, Math and Related Professional Programs Committee
 3. Academic Policy and Practices Committee
 4. Grievances, Appeals and Petitions Committee
 5. Fellowships and Scholarships Committee
6. **Report on Professional Development** (Heather Brandt)
 Dr. Brandt thanked the Graduate Council members for their continued support while she served as the Associate Dean of the Graduate School over the last four academic years. Currently, she and Dr. Addy are still working through the transition of some of her various roles and responsibilities. If you have any questions after Friday, May 15th, that you would normally address to her, please direct them to gradapp@mailbox.sc.edu . This email address is checked multiple times per day; so, your email will get forwarded to the appropriate person for assistance. She is maintaining her faculty appointment into July while she wraps up some of her research projects. Some projects will end while others will be taken on by colleagues to ably lead forward.
7. **Report of the Graduate Student Association Representative** (Jennifer Mandelbaum)
 Jennifer thanked the Graduate Council for the time she spent with the them. This is her last meeting and she introduced her replacement, Sudipta Saha, to the members of the Council. She suggested that the graduate students be given a contact person in the Graduate School to consult if they are being forced to return to campus when they are uncomfortable doing so. In some instances, the student's supervisor is also their academic advisor and can make the students feel pressured into returning to campus for their GA/TA responsibilities.

Dr. Mitchell suggested that the best place to begin would be with Mr. Dale Moore who serves as our ombudsman.

Jennifer completed her report by suggesting that the GSA is still working on the year-end report which will be shared with the Graduate Council and other University administrators upon completion.

8. **Report of the Academic Policy and Practices Committee** (Jim Mensch)

No report.

9. **Report of the 500/600 Level Courses, Distributed Learning and Special Topics Courses** (Murray Mitchell)

This report is presented to Council for informational purposes only; no action is necessary.

500/600 Courses for May 2020 Grad Council

(CCP = Course Change Proposal; NCP=New Course Proposal; STC=Special Topics Course)

None at this time

Distributed Learning Proposals

None at this time

Special Topics Course Proposals

These proposals will now go directly to the Registrar for scheduling.

10. **Associate Graduate Faculty Nominations** (Murray Mitchell)

None at this time.

11. **Fellowships and Scholarships Committee** (Jean Ellis)

Dr. Ellis and her committee met on last week to finalize award offers to current students. SREB awards have not been made yet as they are waiting on the SREB panel. She and her committee will continue to work through the summer until these awards have been made. She appreciates the hard work of her Committee members.

12. **Report of Science, Math, and Related Professional Programs Committee** (Murray Mitchell for Rick Creswick)

Below is a list of proposals reviewed by the Committee. Each curricular action can be viewed at this Public Agenda review site:

<https://www.sc.edu/programproposal/agenda/?id=86&code=GCO>

At this Public Agenda link, the individual proposals are not live-linked, but agenda items are listed in alphabetical order. To view the full proposals, GC members and Committee Chairs still need to go to the Committee Review site, and filter for "Committees", then for the "Committee" called

“Added to Grad Council agenda.”

- **ITEC 749** (3) Principles of Informatics, Engineering and Computing, NCP: Summer 2020
- **ITEC 785** (3) Enterprise Data Analytics, Engineering and Computing, NCP: Summer 2020

These proposals were unanimously approved by Graduate Council.

13. Report of the Humanities, Social Sciences, Education, and Related Professional Programs Committee
(Robin DiPietro)

Below is a list of proposals reviewed by the Committee. Each curricular action can be viewed at this Public Agenda review site:

<https://www.sc.edu/programproposal/agenda/?id=86&code=GCO>

At this Public Agenda link, the individual proposals are not live-linked, but agenda items are listed in alphabetical order. To view the full proposals, GC members and Committee Chairs still need to go to the Committee Review site, and filter for “Committees”, then for the “Committee” called “Added to Grad Council agenda.”

- **ART Major / Degree Program**, I.M.A. in Art Education, Arts and Sciences, Terminate Program, Fall 2021
- **ART Major / Degree Program**, M.A. in Art Education, Arts and Sciences, Change Program, Fall 2021
- **EDFI 857** (3) Advanced Critical Race Theory and Education, Education, NCP: Summer 2020
- **EDLP Major / Degree Program**, Higher Education and Student Affairs, M.Ed., Education, Change Program: Fall 2021
- **EDLP 734** (3) Improvement Science and Action Research, Education, NCP: Summer 2020
- **EDTE 857** (3) Advanced Critical Race Theory and Education, Education, NCP: Summer 2020
- **FINA 746** (3) Risk Management, Business, Change to Existing Course, Fall 2021
- **HRSM 888** (3) Research Design in Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management, HRSM, NCP: Summer 2020
- **MGMT 775** (3) Competitive Strategy Analysis, Business, CCP: Fall 2021
- **MGMT 776** (3) Strategic Planning, Business, CCP: Fall 2021
- **ZZBA Concentration**, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Concentration, Business, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2021

These proposals were unanimously approved by Graduate Council.

14. Report of the Grievances, Appeals and Petitions Committee (Bobby Brame)
No report.

15. Other Committee Reports

None.

16. Old Business

None.

17. New Business

None.

18. Good of the Order

Dr. Addy thanked the outgoing members of the Graduate Council for their commitment to graduate education through serving on Graduate Council with the hope that they will return one day. She also thanked the continuing members, as well as, the new incoming members who agreed to serve and chose to attend today's meeting. She looks forward to working with all of them in the upcoming academic year.

Dr. Addy publicly thanked Dr. Brandt for her tremendous work during her four-year tenure as Associate Dean of the Graduate School. She has done such an amazing job of building up the professional development for the Graduate School, scholarly initiatives, communications, and social media presence. She offered Dr. Brandt her best wishes going forward in her new dream job in Memphis.

19. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50pm.

Murray Mitchell, Secretary

CC: Bob Caslen, President
Tayloe Harding, Interim Provost
Cheryl Addy, Vice Provost & Dean of the Graduate School
Deans
Department Chairs
Graduate Directors
Aaron Marterer, University Registrar
Elaine Belesky, Office of the Registrar
Malia Kiehl, Office of the Registrar
Tara George, Office of the Registrar