

**University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee**  
**Graduate Faculty Committee (GFC)**

**Monday, December 11, 2017**  
**3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**  
**LUBAR N440**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m. by Jason Puskar, Chair.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**Present:**

*(Committee Members):* Jennifer Balogh, John Boyland, Michael Brondino, Jennifer Clippert, Reed Heintzkill, Elana Levine, Wilkistar Otieno, Jason Puskar (*Chair*), Mark Schwartz, Stephen Wetzel, Cheng Zheng

*(Non-Committee Members):* Vicky Everson, Michael Liston (*Ex Officio*), Tiffany Nation

**Absent:**

Garry Davis, Peter Dunn, Erin Fox (*Ex Officio*), Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska (*Ex Officio*), Craig Guilbault, Peninnah Kako, Jenny Kehl, Arijit Sen, Richard Smiraglia, Leigh Ellen Wallace, Erin Winkler, Lixia Zhang

**Guest:**

Mike Darnell (L&S), Christy Greenleaf (CHS Kinesiology), Shane Haensgen (Graduate School), Renee Scampini (Graduate School)

**III. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no other announcements.

**IV. AUTOMATIC CONSENT**

Agenda items under Automatic Consent were motioned, seconded, and passed unanimously with the exception of E1. Policy Updates which was pulled from the agenda and will be addressed under V. New Business.

A. Minutes of the Graduate Faculty Committee Meeting of November 13, 2017

B. Program Changes:

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical and Health Informatics (OPC #2463) | GFC Doc. No. 1503 |
| 2. Master of Science in Computer Science (OPC #2442)                     | GFC Doc. No. 1504 |
| 3. Doctor of Philosophy in Information Studies (OPC #2452)               | GFC Doc. No. 1499 |
| 4. Certificate in Translation (OPC #2410)                                | GFC Doc. No. 1500 |
| 5. Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology (OPC #2424)                        | GFC Doc. No. 1501 |
| 6. Master of Science in Psychology (OPC #2425)                           | GFC Doc. No. 1502 |
| 7. Master of Science in Engineering Concentrations (OPC #2470)           | GFC Doc. No. 934  |

C. **New Degree, Certificate, or Concentration**

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Recommendation to Authorize Implementation of a Master of Arts Degree in Translation and Interpreting Studies   | GFC Doc. No. 1505 |
| 2. Recommendation of the College of Health Sciences' Undergraduate and Graduate Program in Kinesiology to Establish an Academic Program Track Leading to Baccalaureate and Master's Degree | GFC Doc. No. 1498 |

D. **Curricular Area Codes**

- ***Diagnostic Imaging (DMI)***

**Description of curricular area and relationship to academic programs:**

DMI code will be applied to courses delivered in the Diagnostic Imaging submajor in BMS.

**Reason for change:**

Clarity for students; clarity in SCH for administrative purposes.

**Other departments and curricular areas that may be affected:**

Biomedical Sciences, BMS, DI degree completion Flex Option.

**E. Policy Updates**

1. Recommendation of the Graduate Curriculum Committee to Establish Transcript-Designated Degree Concentrations (GFC Doc. No. 878)

*Agenda item E1 (Recommendation of the Graduate Curriculum Committee to Establish Transcript-Designated Degree Concentrations (GFC Doc. No. 878) was pulled from Automatic Consent per the GFC Chair Jason Puskar and will be addressed under V. New Business.*

**F. Graduate Program Review Reports**

1. Urban Studies MS/PhD GFC Doc. No. 1508
2. Sociology MA/PhD GFC Doc. No. 1477

**V. NEW BUSINESS (DISCUSSION ONLY)**

Agenda item E1 (Recommendation of the Graduate Curriculum Committee to Establish Transcript-Designated Degree Concentrations (GFC Doc. No. 878) under Policy Updates was pulled from Automatic Consent per the GFC Chair, Jason Puskar. The committee motioned that the recommendation be indefinitely postponed, seconded, and passed unanimously.

1. Governance Progress for Approving Policies through Codification and Faculty Senate  
Jason Puskar explained the background of the restructuring of the Graduate Faculty Committee under the Faculty Senate. He explained that even though officially the GFC was under the Faculty Senate it did not operate accordingly. He explained that GFC approved policies since 2007 have not been reviewed by Faculty Senate. He proposed the question to the committee of how do we handle this? Discussion followed.
2. GA Declines with More Data for Schools and Departments  
Jason Puskar explained that last month the committee discussed GA declines. The committee requested additional information on GA declines. The committee reviewed the provided charts with additional information on GA declines. Discussion followed.

**VI. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The Graduate Faculty Committee recommends to the Board of Regents for the respective graduate degrees those students whose names are submitted by the Dean of the Graduate School as having completed degree requirements by the end of the Fall Term, 2017-18.

Special Order of Business recommendations were motioned, seconded, and passed unanimously.

**VI. REPORTS**

- A. Report from the Dean of the Graduate School
- GSRC Updates (Reed Heintzkill)

- After discussions with the Dean last year, I rallied, lobbied, negotiated, composed legislation, and finally a month or so ago passed a bill in Student Association to form an official subcommittee to replace the (outmoded) GSAC.
- The new committee, Graduate Student Representative Committee (GSRC) is now officially sanctioned by UWM Student Association, which is a more official Shared Governance entity than GSAC ever was whilst under the auspices of the Graduate School. We also have access to simple funding for supplies, printing, etc. now, not to mention a more direct ability to influence SUF spending to improve fairness of SAC spending between UG and grad programs.
- Dean G-J reached out to me over the Thanksgiving break about putting out a call to action to bring UWM grad students together vis-à-vis the (now passed, not yet reconciled) GOP tax bill that may significantly affect graduate students receiving tuition remission across the country.
- My call-out to the UWM graduate population was met with an unexpected enthusiasm – more than 40 people showed up to the meeting last Thursday 11/30 (we had to move to a bigger room), and a tremendous conversation ensued. I will try to put together minutes and copy you all on that shortly, but I have papers to grade.
- After the general assembly of impassioned grad students, those interested in participating in GSRC stayed behind to hold our inaugural GSRC meeting. Prof. Liston was kind enough to grace us with his presence, and offered a number of excellent suggestions and insights.

During our Thursday meeting, GSRC determined to take a number of steps to address the tax bill issue and inform the grad student population on a number of issues:

- Immediate response

- Social media campaign
- “Worst case scenario” preparedness: data-gathering and resources for current and future grad students to prepare them for possible ramifications of the bill
- Outreach to other UW System schools and national graduate associations to coordinate response

I wanted to make all those at the Office of the Graduate School aware of current state of affairs on this subject to ease our coordination, of which much will be required!

In Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska’s absence Michael Liston reported on the following:

1. Reviewed Admission Letter
  - Will be compiled into 2 to 3 uniformed letters
2. Fellowships competition has started and applications have been launched.
  - 2 new fellowship awards
    - 10 new AOP fellowships
    - 10 new Distinguished Dissertators fellowships
    - Criteria: Programs will nominate students likely to finish in one year.
    - Application process is similar to existing awards.
    - Boost PhD production in 2018 - 19
3. May Xiong, former Assistant Director of AOP Fellowship and McNair Program has left UWM to join her husband in California. The Graduate School is working on reorganizing the Graduate Diversity and Opportunities Program Office.
4. Integrated Bachelors/Masters Degrees
  - McNair students will receive incentives for enrolling.
  - Goal is to draw in students from different categories.

**B. Chair’s Report**

- Update on the Leave of Absence Policy

Puskar gave the discussion history on the leave of absence policy and dissertator credits. He discussed the concern of the lack of a leave of absence policy. He agreed that there should be a policy however Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska spoke with Madison and Madison stated that they are bound by the system’s tuition and fee policy for dissertators. Puskar informed the committee that he found no restrictions in the tuition and fees policy concerning extra credits on top of the dissertator credits. Puskar informed the committee that this will be discussed in the future when Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska returns. Discussion followed.

**C. GFC Representatives on Other Standing Committees**

- Physical Environment Committee
  - Transportation presented their budget with no increase in parking fees. There will be a meeting in the theater to review and discuss the construction of the new theater that will be built.
- Academic Planning and Budget Committee
  - Budget model information session continued. The new budget model is being pushed back. It is being requested that budget information be kept confidential. There have been no new items of business on the agenda.
- Academic Policy Committee
  - No report given.
- Research Policy and Advisory Committee
  - Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska has requested suggestions on how to support the R1 status. She has requested that the committee send her any ideas on how to help students graduate.
- Graduate Assistant Appeals Panel
  - No report given.
- Policy Working Group
  - No report given

**VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

NONE

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.