

The University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Graduate Faculty Committee (GFC)

Monday, April 10, 2023

3 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

Teleconference via Teams

Meeting Minutes

I. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. by John Berges, Chair.

II. **Roll Call**

Present: (Committee Members): Sara Benesh, John Berges, Tracy Boyer, Noelle Chesley, Stephen Cobb, Emily Godager, Craig Guilbault, Teresa Johnson, Carol Klingbeil, Michael Newman, Danielle Romain Dagenhardt, Erin Ruppel, Aaron Schutz, Leigh Wallace, Erin Winkler

(Non-Committee Members): Alessandra Gillen, Erin Fox (*Ex officio*), Mark Harris (*Ex officio*), Vickie Moerchen (*Ex officio*)

Absent: (Committee Members): Anne Bonds, Nicki Roman

Guests: Kitonga Alexander, Dana Baldwin, John Boyland, Brooke Haley, Bonnie Klein-Tasman, Kristen Murphy, Derek Nazareth, Laura Pedrick, Alexandra Rodriguez, Jennifer Singer, Chad Zahrt

III. **Announcements**

a. None.

IV. **Automatic Consent**

The following item was approved as distributed:

a. Minutes of the Graduate Faculty Committee Meeting of March 13, 2023

V. **Continuing Business**

a. Presentation of report from English Proficiency Working Group (Discussion)

- i. Fac. Doc. 3078/GFC Doc. 1373: Recommendation of the GFC to Amend the English Proficiency Requirement for Graduate Students and Graduate Teaching Assistants
- ii. John Berges presented the report from the Working Group, listing concerns and identifying issues to inform future discussions of the policy. Berges recommended associating the report with the policy and having it available on the Graduate School website.

b. Revision to Microcredentials policy (Discussion)

- i. Fac. Doc. 3393: Policies and Procedures for Microcredentials at UWM

- ii. Laura Pedrick highlighted revisions that were made to the Microcredentials policy. Discussion. A motion to approve the revised policy was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.
- c. Graduate Certificate policy (Discussion)
 - i. Fac. Doc. 3206R2: Policies and Procedures for the Development, Structure, Administration, and Review of Graduate Certificate Programs
 - ii. Vickie Moerchen discussed revisions made to the Graduate Certificate policy. Fac. Doc. 3206 will supersede Fac. Doc. 3207. A motion to approve the revised policy was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

VI. New Business

- a. Prior Learning Assessment (Discussion)
 - i. Fac. Doc. 3320: Prior Learning Assessment Policy
 - ii. UW System Admin Procedure 138.A: Award of Credit by Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Procedure
 - iii. Mark Harris introduced the campus-wide PLA policy that is in effect. Vickie Moerchen stated that the campus-wide policy would be revised with Graduate School-specific requirements. Chad Zahrt outlined how SOIS is looking to use Prior Learning Assessments in the MLIS program. Discussion. A revised policy will be brought back to a future GFC meeting.
- b. GFC document numbering system and Faculty document numbering system for policies. (Discussion)
 - a. Vickie Moerchen outlined the problems that have arisen from maintaining both a GFC document numbering system and a Faculty document numbering system for policies. Vickie proposes sunseting the GFC doc. numbering system and simplifying policy titles. Discussion. No further issues were raised by GFC members.

VII. Reports

- a. Report from the Dean of the Graduate School
 - i. Mark Harris stated that there are a lot of program reviews taking place, managed by Tiffany Nation, and they are running well.
 - ii. Fellowship acceptances are rolling in.
 - iii. Erin Fox discussed the events held for a successful National Graduate Student Appreciation Week.
- b. Chair's Report
 - i. John Berges is working with Michael Doyle and Shane Haensgen on the electronic submission of graduate theses through ProQuest and will bring final recommendations back to the GFC.
- c. Report from Chairs of other Graduate School Committees
 - i. Graduate Curriculum Committee
 - 1. None.
 - ii. Graduate Student Fellowships Committee
 - 1. Sara Benesh stated that the GSFC will meet soon to go over this year and discuss any changes for next year's fellowship process.
 - iii. Graduate Program Review Committee

1. Erin Ruppel stated that the GPRC is working on quite a few program reviews this semester.
- iv. Academic Planning and Budget Committee
 1. Aaron Schutz said that the APBC discussed the upcoming tuition increase.
- v. Academic Policy Committee
 1. None.
- vi. Research Policy and Advisory Committee
 1. Sara Benesh stated that staff from University Safety and Assurances spoke at RPAC. Mark Harris gave RPAC an update on state and regional collaboration opportunities, and Kris O'Connor spoke about policies that the Office of Research is working on.

VIII. Other Business

- a. None.

IX. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.