

Graduate Faculty Senate  
**Meeting Minutes**



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October 26, 2021 1:30-3:00 PM

**Jeni Hart, Alan Parrish, Gui DeSouza, Sue Boren, Julija Sukys, Candace Kuby, Chris Daniggelis, Yuwen Zhang, Damon Hall, Lissa Behm Morawitz, Corinne Valdivia, Amanda Hoffman, Miriam Butler**

1. Call to order  
1:30pm
2. Acceptance of the agenda
3. Approval of minutes from September 28, 2021, meeting

Move to approve – Candace

Seconded – Shy Ren

Approved

4. Committee Reports:
    - a. Academic Affairs – Prof. Sue Boren, chair
      - i. Course Approvals

23 courses reviewed and approved by the committee and recommended for approval.  
No discussion  
Approved
      - ii. Update on process for dual enrollment (4000/7000) courses

There have been a lot of 4000 and 7000 level courses requested for approval. The committee has been watching closely and has requested syllabi be submitted to review course requests; specifically, the 7000 expectations.
    - b. Awards – Prof. Chris Daniggelis, chair

Chris is working on Rubrics for the committee to review. Several application deadlines are November 1.
    - c. Policy subcommittee – Prof. Julija Sukys, chair
      - i. Appeal for Termination of Assistantship

It was discovered that there were two processes for graduate students for dismissal. 1-Program dismissal process & 2-Dismissal process from an assistantship or fellowship. When comparing the two processes as stated in policy documents, the assistantship dismissal is far more onerous than that of the program dismissal. The committee thought that it would be a good idea to bring the two processes in line. Some simple edits have been made (review document attached at end).
- Discussion:
- JH-I would read the supervisor as the supervisor of the assistantship not the students' academic advisor. It should be the person employing the person.

\*Change wording to assistantship supervisor or Chair, DGS of the department.

MB-currently there is a 60-day time frame for the student or supervisor to file and then an additional 30 days. Trying to gather all the faculty could take approximately 4 to 6 weeks. I think this is too long, there should be some appropriate time frame, so the person is not in limbo for too long.

JS-Change working to say that:

Meet within 30 days

Decide within 48 hours of the hearing

Communicate within 72 hours

JS taking back to the policy subcommittee to make edits and post on canvas for senate to review and share with their departments. A vote is planned at next senate meeting scheduled for November 30<sup>th</sup>.

ii. Comprehensive Examination

Does spring break count as a week into those four weeks that are between the two portions of the comprehensive exam. The holidays should not count in those weeks between the written and oral exam. New language on the policy will reflect those official holidays or days of during recesses will not count against that time. (See policy below).

JS-will work up the revisions and senate will vote at November meeting.

5. Report: Liaison to Faculty Council – Prof. Corinne Valdivia

Mask Mandates, Vaccination Mandates. Curators voted to stop the temporary mandates.

Discussion about workload policy-faculty council have tried to delay the policy with the argument that some people are against it. Chancellor turned down the request. People thought that there should be more discussion, especially time to discuss diversity and inclusion into the work policy.

Discussion about the concern for mental health students, nothing was decided.

Rhonda Gibler attended to provide an update of the resource allocation model.

6. Report: Graduate Professional Council – Ms. Amanda Hoffmann, GPC Representative

Graduate students do not feel comfortable on campus without masks.

Graduate students are not getting MUPD alerts about crimes that are happening around campus and the community.

October 31<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for the GPC research award. It is a \$600.00 award for students seeking financial assistance for their research or scholarly projects.

Attendance was up for the last meeting. Departments are asked to encourage their students to attend.

7. Report: Graduate School – Prof. Jeni Hart, Dean of Graduate School and Vice Provost for Graduate Studies.

Would the senate be at all interested in being copied on emails that do go to the directors of graduate studies? It's another way that we share information about graduate education you could be interested in.

November 4<sup>th</sup> is the last day that students can respond to the graduate and professional student experience survey. Please encourage your students to participate the more information we have the better we can advocate for them; and provide the necessary professional development. Results will appear on the website.

The minimum stipend will be increased for the next year. Try to increase the stipend based on the salary pool that faculty and staff receive. Last year we had a 1.5% salary pool so the minimum stipend level will increase by 1.5%. At the doctoral level that increase is approximately \$270 for the nine months.

Manor house is going to be knocked down. There will be many graduate students displaced.

8. Update on Faculty Workload – Alan Parrish

Discussed in executive committee meeting. Is there a unified way to make the point that graduate education and not just teaching is an important part of our workload and should be recognized? By recognized we mean valued in the policies.

Dr Hart received some data/information from colleagues in the SEC. We have found that the bottom line is that the policies are department and school specific, all different. Each academic unit has a different mission, as such Graduate education is a differentially factored into workload policies.

The executive committee is trying to put together a resolution to submit to University administration. At this point, we are not sure how it will look because it is not one size fits all. If the goal is to get fully accounted workload for the time spent training graduate students, we are all going to leave disappointed; however, we do need to get the discussion on the table.

There will be something on the canvas site for everyone to review prior to the November meeting.

9. Resolutions

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn – Gui DeSouza

Seconded – Julija Sukys

Adjourned – 2:52pm

**Edited text—(red portions are new)**

**Assistantships and Fellowships**

A student with a graduate assistantship may appeal a decision regarding an assistantship in the following circumstances:

- Unfair dismissal.
- Prejudiced or capricious academic program evaluation.
- Stipend not commensurate with that of other graduate students with the same status in the same academic program.

If you are a graduate student and believe one of the above situations applies to you, you may begin the appeals process.

**Step 1: Work toward a resolution.**

First attempt to resolve the matter with the faculty/staff member or appropriate administrative leader of the school, college, or unit responsible for your assistantship.

**Step 2: File a written appeal within your unit.**

If your attempt at resolution is unsuccessful, you may then file a written appeal to the [director of graduate studies](#) for consideration by the appropriate graduate committee. This appeal must be filed within 60 days of the evaluation or dismissal. A written determination of the appeal will be presented to you and your supervisor. If the assistantship is not in an academic program, the Associate Dean of the Graduate School will consider the appeal.

**Step 3: Present the appeal to the Graduate School.**

If no action is taken on the appeal within 30 days of its filing or if the matter is not resolved to your satisfaction, you may present the original appeal and documentation to the MU Dean of the Graduate School.

If the dean determines that the appeal might have merit, they will request a review by an ad hoc Appeal Committee of the Graduate Faculty Senate consisting of five senators who are not members of the academic program involved in the appeal. The Graduate School will provide information to the student, the department/program and members of the ad hoc GFS Appeal Committee regarding the content, process and regulations/policies pertaining to the appeal. Upon compilation of the appeal file, the Dean of the Graduate School will send a copy of file materials to the members of the Appeal Committee and to the department/program. If the program/department wishes to respond in writing, its statement will be distributed to the Appeal Committee, the student and representatives from the Graduate School.

A hearing will be scheduled as soon as all parties can meet: the student (and an advisor from the university community, if desired), [the student's supervisor \(optional\)](#), representatives from the department/program, the Appeal Committee and the Graduate School. At this hearing, the department or program will first invite the student making the appeal to present the case discussed in the written statement. The Appeal Committee may ask questions at this point, and once its questions have been answered, will give the program/department the opportunity to defend its dismissal of the student. [The student's supervisor may also contribute to the discussion.](#) Following further questions from the Appeal Committee, the hearing will be adjourned.

**The Appeal Committee will meet to make a decision.** This decision will be conveyed in writing to the student, the director of graduate studies and chairperson of the department or program, the Dean of the Graduate School, the Graduate Faculty Senate president, and any other appropriate party named in the appeal.

**Edited text—(red portions are new)**

## Comprehensive Examination

**A doctoral student must successfully complete the comprehensive examination within a period of five years beginning with the first semester of enrollment as a PhD student.**

Individual departments or area programs may stipulate a shorter time period. The comprehensive examination consists of written and oral sections. **It must be completed at least seven months before the final defense of the dissertation.** The two sections of the examination must be completed within one month. Official university recesses, university holidays, and periods of intersession that fall between the two sections of the examination (i.e., Thanksgiving Recess, Winter Break, etc.), then this time will not count against the student's timeline. Students are encouraged to communicate and work with committee members to achieve a mutually workable timeline.

Code	Title	Status	Initiator	Received
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<a href="#">ACCTCY 9457</a>	<a href="#">ACCTCY 9457: Seminar in Tax Research</a>	Edited	blyther	10/1/2021
<a href="#">ACCTCY 9460</a>	<a href="#">ACCTCY 9460: Overview of Accounting Research</a>	Edited	blyther	9/23/2021
<a href="#">AG_S_TCH 7085</a>	<a href="#">AG_S_TCH 7085: Problems in Agricultural Systems Management</a>	Edited	schumacherl	10/1/2021
<a href="#">ASTRON 7750</a>	<a href="#">ASTRON 7750: Interstellar Medium</a>	Edited	kosztind	10/20/2021
<a href="#">CNST_DEM 7835</a>	<a href="#">CNST DEM 7835: Race and Politics in South Africa</a>	Added	kanetc	9/20/2021
<a href="#">ENV_SC 7300</a>	<a href="#">ENV SC 7300: Methods in Lake Ecology</a>	Edited	northr	10/20/2021
<a href="#">ENV_SC 7308</a>	<a href="#">ENV SC 7308: Methods in Stream Ecology</a>	Edited	argericha	10/20/2021
<a href="#">ENV_SC 8300</a>	<a href="#">ENV_SC 8300: Journal Club in Water Resources</a>	Added	argericha	10/1/2021
<a href="#">F_S 8405</a>	<a href="#">F_S 8405: Advanced Food Microbiology and Biotechnology</a>	Edited	mustaphaa	10/21/2021
<a href="#">GEOG 7450</a>	<a href="#">GEOG 7450: Health, Healthcare Access, and Geography</a>	Added	larsens	10/20/2021
<a href="#">HIST 4835</a>	<a href="#">HIST 4835: Race and Politics in South Africa</a>	Added	kanetc	10/20/2021
<a href="#">HIST 7605</a>	<a href="#">HIST 7605: Spain in the Age of Empire, 1450-1750</a>	Edited	bowersks	10/17/2021
<a href="#">JOURN 4320</a>	<a href="#">JOURN 4320: Advanced Broadcast Reporting</a>	Edited	eawx7v	10/21/2021
<a href="#">JOURN 4371</a>	<a href="#">JOURN 4371: Documentary Theory</a>	Edited	woelfels	10/20/2021
<a href="#">JOURN 4373</a>	<a href="#">JOURN 4373: Documentary Development</a>	Edited	eawx7v	10/20/2021
<a href="#">JOURN 7300</a>	<a href="#">JOURN 7300: TV News Reporting I</a>	Edited	townlaink	10/17/2021
<a href="#">LTC 9850</a>	<a href="#">LTC 9850: Equity and Diversity in Mathematics Education</a>	Added	colleyf	9/23/2021
<a href="#">NAT_R 7300</a>	<a href="#">NAT_R 7300: Methods in Lake Ecology</a>	Edited	northr	10/20/2021
<a href="#">SOC_WK 4410</a>	<a href="#">SOC WK 4410: Social Welfare and the Law</a>	Edited	nullc	9/23/2021
<a href="#">SOC_WK 4480</a>	<a href="#">SOC WK 4480: Direct Practice with Older Adults</a>	Edited	nullc	9/23/2021
<a href="#">SPC_ED 8606</a>	<a href="#">SPC ED 8606: Assessment in Autism, Special Education</a>	Edited	colleyf	9/23/2021
<a href="#">STAT 8110</a>	<a href="#">STAT 8110: Software for Statistical Learning</a>	Added	riesld	10/21/2021
<a href="#">T_A_M 7400</a>	<a href="#">T_A_M 7400: The Retail Consumer: Advanced Data Analytics</a>	Added	mestresj	9/23/2021

