

Graduate Faculty Senate Meeting Agenda



Tuesday October 28th 2025 3:30pm
111F Townsend Hall

Attending: David Beversdorf, Erika Boerman, Maria Fidalgo, Timothy Haithcoat, Johanna Kramer, Paul Ladehoff, Jacqueline Limberg (Zoom), Leslie Lyons (Zoom), Julie Miller (Zoom), Cristina Mislán, Rajiv Mohan (Zoom), Felix Oguche, Rose Osnaya (Zoom), Abed Rabbani, Rocio Rivera (Zoom), Erin Robinson, Phillip Wood (Zoom), Laura Zangori, Jeni Hart, Enid Schatz, Ashley Siebenaler, Amy Rhea.

1. Call to order at 3:33pm by Maria Fidalgo.
2. Approval of minutes of September 2025
 - a. Amend to include Limberg attending via Zoom. Motion to approve as amended by Rabbani, seconded by Boerman, approved.
3. Acceptance of the agenda
 - a. Motioned by Robinson, seconded by Boerman, accepted.
4. Committee Reports:
 - a. Academic Affairs Committee – Prof. Julie Miller, Chair
 - i. New program presentations
 - Graduate Minor in Project Management and Analytics for Health Administration, Sue Boren and Patricia Alafaireet (3:30pm)
 - There is a similar graduate certificate in BBME.
 - 9 cr hrs, 3 courses. Courses are pre-existing and there is no need to hire additional faculty.
 - Students would be PhD nurse students, pharmacy students, business students, industrial engineering students
 - New Program Proposal Graduate Certificate in Data Journalism, Lindsey Crozier and Mark Horvit (4:30pm)
 - 12 cr hrs, online, asynchronous, open to all but target audience is industry professionals. Outcomes indicate better jobs and better paying jobs with data analysis credential.
 - Data Journalists use trends to find news.
 - Two classes already exist, two would be new.
 - No need to hire new faculty, but will add experts in the field to be adjuncts

- Mentoring would be faculty, adjuncts, and alumni.
- Final project would be individual rather than group projects.
- Estimating six students per cohort.
- All 12 hours will apply toward a master's degree if people want to continue.
- Would cap online classes at 15 but could open more sessions at need.

ii. Course Approvals (10 new courses; 5 edits) GFS Pres Courses 10.21.25.xlsx

- No motion needed, since recommendation comes from committee.
- No discussion.
- Approved.

iii. New Program Approvals: none

iv. Approvals on edits of existing programs (4 edited programs) GFS Pres Programs 10.21.25.xlsx

- No motion needed, since recommendation comes from committee.
- No discussion.
- Approved.

b. Fellowships and Awards Committee – Prof. Abed Rabbani, Chair

- nothing to report.
- Deadline for award nominations is October 31, 2025.
- Abed received a question about nomination materials from a faculty and Enid and he provided guidance on that.

c. Policy Committee – Prof. Rocio Rivera, Chair

- No items to discuss

5. Faculty Council Information Sharing – Member at large – Prof. Erika Boerman

- Added a module to the Canvas page and will post relevant updates there.
- May eliminate Reading Day for FS 2025 because of Veteran's Day holiday.
- IDE Committee has been asked to change name or eliminate committee. Some discussion centered around how the language of IDE is important and needed for accountability. Some discussion supported renaming the committee and still providing the same services.
- Faculty are now required to post syllabus and grades on Canvas, even if they don't use the platform for anything else.

6. Report: Graduate Professional Council – Mr. Felix Oguiche, GPC Representative
 - a. RCAF had 73 participants this year and the Engineering Dean as a special speaker. The event will be held in the fall in the future.
 - b. Funding shortages for Tiger Pantry is leading to fundraising campaign for GPC.
7. Report: Graduate School – Dean Jeni Hart
 - a. Two students and one postdoc have been put on hold due to federal government hold and cannot return to duty until government reopens.
8. Other new business: none
9. Resolutions: none
10. Announcements: none
11. Motion to adjourn by Beversdorf, second by Boerman, adjourned at 4:55pm