



Graduate Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 6, 2023
EHFA 164 at 11:30 a.m.

Attendees: Wes Fondren, Sourav Batabyal, Elizabeth Baltes, Teresa Burns, Roi Gurka, Erin Hackett, Hsing-Wen Hu, Leann Mischel, Nils Rahut, Eric Resnis, Timothy Rotarius, Anthony Setari, Sam Sullivan for Stacy Wyeth

Not present: Kelly Elliot

Wes Fondren called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m.

The meeting minutes from April 5, 2023, were approved by unanimous consent.

Committee Chair, Wes Fondren reported on the state of Graduate Studies and gave a report on activities from last year and this year focused on improving graduate operations and increasing graduate enrollment. New graduate enrollment is up 16.5% Fall 2023 over Fall 2022.

Old Business

- A. Dissertation/Thesis Committee Policies: A discussion was held regarding what qualifications are needed to serve on committees. It was agreed that a sub-committee will be formed to possibly create a new policy. The following members of Graduate Council volunteered for the sub-committee:
Anthony Setari (chair), Roi Gurka, Sourav Batabyal, Erin Hackett, Nils Rahut. This committee will be drafting policy for how graduate committees are constructed and approved. An update will be provided next meeting.
Wes Fondren and Tye McKenny will be reviewing graduate faculty status and application process and bring update to the committee next month.

New Business

Chrisy Genovevo explained the new motion form found in the Curriculog system and demonstrated how it will be used going forward for motions needing a vote at committee meetings.

Announcements

Roi Gurka mentioned that current stipends for graduate students have not increased in the last eight years. There needs to be more discussion on how to compensate graduate assistants. The need for graduate assistants is higher (particularly in College of Science) than there are graduate students.

Emily Gaspar presented on University Belonging and Student Affairs. Disability services and accommodations for graduate students were discussed. Students can go to the website to initiate services. The office will then follow up and a letter will be sent to faculty once accommodations are determined.

With no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Genovevo
Curriculum Management Coordinator