



Graduate Council

April 20, 2022, 2-3:30 p.m.

<https://wayne-edu.zoom.us/j/99869736041?pwd=VHBOZXAxQ2h0WGVDNWNrT1ExaURiQT09>

- I. **Report of the Chair**
 - a. Review and approval of March 2022 minutes (page 2)
 - b. Revised deferral policy (March and April versions attached to calendar invite)
- II. **Executive Committee (Fred Vultee, Chair)**
- III. **Academic Standard Committee (Jeff Pruchnic, Chair)**
- IV. **New Programs and Program Review Committee (NPPR) (Todd Leff, Chair)** (Both proposals attached to calendar invite)
 - a. Graduate certificate in Urban Sustainability, Urban Studies and Planning, CLAS
 - b. Program Inactivation in Urban Sustainability (PhD Dual Title), Pharmacology, SOM
- V. **Graduate Student report from Student Senate representative (Asra Akhlaq)**
- VI. **New Business**
- VII. **Report of the Academic Senate Liaisons**
 - a. Linda Beale, Academic Senate
 - b. Ed Cackett, Research Committee
 - c. David Moss, Curriculum and Instruction Committee
- VIII. **Adjournment**

Graduate Council

March 30, 2022, 2-3:30 p.m.

<https://wayne-edu.zoom.us/j/94762390926?pwd=cy9pY2Z5MWZySVA1NEMrZTREU3Yzd09>

- IX. **Report of the Chair**
 - a. Review and approval of February 2022 minutes (page 2)
- X. **Executive Committee (Fred Vultee, Chair)**
 - a. Proposal on three categories of graduate faculty appointments (proposal attached to calendar invite)
- XI. **Academic Standard Committee (Jeff Pruchnic, Chair)**
 - a. Revised policy on requirements for posthumous degrees (proposal attached to calendar invite)
- XII. **New Programs and Program Review Committee (NPPR) (Todd Leff, Chair) (All three proposals attached to calendar invite)**
 - a. MS in Artificial Intelligence, Computer Science, College of Engineering
 - b. MS in Environmental Science (Track A), Environmental Science and Geology, CLAS
 - c. Graduate certificate in Museum Practice, Anthropology, CLAS
- XIII. **Graduate Student report from Student Senate representative (Asra Akhlaq)**
- XIV. **Graduate Admissions Deferral Process (Sherry Quinn, Director of Graduate Admissions)**
- XV. **New Business**
- XVI. **Report of the Academic Senate Liaisons**
 - d. Linda Beale, Academic Senate
 - e. Ed Cackett, Research Committee
 - f. David Moss, Curriculum and Instruction Committee
 - g. Paul Dubinsky, Budget Committee
- XVII. **Adjournment**

Attendees:

Linda Beale, Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, Ed Cackett, Deborah Charboneau, Christine Chow, Steve Chrisomalis, Mary Clark, Christine D'Arpa, Rosanne DiZazzo-Miller, Paul Johnson, Loreleigh Keashly, Chera Kee, Todd Leff, Carolyn Loh, Jeffrey Martin, Larry Matherly, Mary Anne McCoy, David Moss, Debra Golam Newaz, Deborah Patterson, Sarah Pearline, Jeff Pruchnic, Sherry Quinn, Robert Reynolds, Malathy Shekhar, Rebeccah Sokol, Sokol Todi, Jasmine Ulmer, Fred Vultee, April Vallerand, Mary Wood, Attila Yaprak, Zhengping Yi

Absent with notice:

April Vallerand, Christy Chow, Rebeccah Sokol, Asra Akhlaq

Absent without notice:

Linda Hazlett, Ken Jackson, Weisong Shi, Poco Kernsmith, Abe Biswas, Dan Walz

Guests:

Mark Baskaran, Nabil Sarhan

Notes:

The Dean asked for a motion to approve the February 2022 minutes. A motion was made and it was seconded and the February minutes were approved.

Report of the Chair, Dean Amanda Bryant-Friedrich

The Dean asked if there was support for holding an in-person meeting in April or May. A straw poll was taken and most GC members indicated they want to stay remote. She said a hybrid meeting option will be available in 2022-23.

Executive Committee Report, Fred Vultee, Chair

Fred Vultee said his proposal circulated to the GC recognizes the many different contributions to graduate education. The current standards are strongly weighed in favor of advising doctoral dissertations. His proposal has several layers. The first is doctoral faculty like the current category. This category would be for those supervising doctoral dissertation committees. It would have the same requirements for initial membership and renewal that we currently have. It allows flexibility for those programs that don't think the requirement for three scholarly works in five years is not appropriate for their discipline. These programs could negotiate with the Graduate School on an appropriate metric. A second category of graduate faculty would be created called graduate professional faculty. This would pertain to faculty who chair master's committees. Faculty in this category can be on dissertation committees. The third is affiliate graduate faculty status, which is done in the SOM. He said it might be worth creating an expedited approval path for those who might appear every year or so as affiliate graduate faculty. Overall, he said the proposal allows more people access while giving programs more of a voice in setting their own standards.

A question came up regarding the affiliate status and external faculty members who serve on dissertation committees. Vultee used the example of the "Bill Gates" question in terms of having a highly accomplished professional with specialized knowledge to serve on dissertation committee. Leff said the affiliate category allows for a more refined way of dealing and managing with Henry Ford scientists who serve on committees and advise students. A GC member mentioned that he shared the proposal with an associate dean in his college who said the extra layers will be an added burden on administrative staff. It was noted that electronic forms have eased some of these burdens. Another GC member said he had put forth a lecturer for a grad faculty appointment and the application was denied by the Grad School. He noted lecturers can have terminal degrees, doctoral degrees and active research portfolios, however, this application was denied. When it was turned down, the message from above was that

lecturers are hired to teach. Vultee said the intent of his proposal is to make sure that many kinds of contribution are recognized. Vultee noted that the second category of grad faculty status is making sure that governance is more widely available. The Dean said the key thing is that students have a depth and breadth of people to serve on committees for PhD and master's. She added that accrediting bodies look at how we handle this and it's important to have clear and transparent guidelines. Jeff Pruchnic noted that this should not increase the administrative burden since the process has been simplified through Dynamic Forms. He added the proposal being discussed removes some of the ambiguity with the current policy. Vultee said the Executive Committee will continue to discuss his proposal in April.

Academic Standards, Jeff Pruchnic, Chair

The posthumous degree policy for master's and PhDs was discussed. The big change from last month was that the current policy requires 100% of credits for a non-thesis, non-dissertation degree or completion of curricular credits and significant program on a thesis or dissertation. What was being proposed is a lower bar for the posthumous degree, which would be 75% of curricular credits completed for master's degree and PhD. Further, enrollment in thesis credits for a MA (that requires a thesis) and enrollment in dissertation credits for a doctoral degree would be required. Additionally, the department and school/college must support the degree application. Linda Beale recommended edits to put all the language in A and B into one portion noting the proposed version in its current format may create confusion. Pruchnic agreed to edit the document in accordance with Beale's recommendation and bring it back for a vote at the end of the meeting.

NPPR, Todd Leff, Chair

Three new proposals were reviewed by NPPR in March. The first discussed was a graduate certificate in museum practice from Anthropology. Steve Chrisomalis summarized the proposal. He said employment data indicates that this certificate is marketable. It can be added on to any graduate degree or be a stand-alone certificate. Students can choose a variety of course options. He said it will bring in students from other WSU programs and eventually from students outside WSU. It will be appealing to professionals already working in the field. The program is not presently online since this a hands-on discipline. Some of the work is going to take place at the Gordon Grosscup Museum on campus. Leff noted that the addition of this certificate program came up during the academic program review process. A question came up about enrollment for the certificate. Chrisomalis predicted around 10-15 students in the first year. He said many of affiliated cultural institutions have professionals who want this certificate. It was confirmed that 12 credits is the minimum for a graduate certificate.

A poll was launched and the graduate certificate in museum practice was approved.

Next, the MS in artificial intelligence was presented by Nabil Sarhan from electrical and computer engineering. He said the program is interdisciplinary and will be offered by three department and organized into three different concentration tracks. Leff said the program has substantial student interest with growth potential. A question arose about the qualifications to

be admitted to the program. Sarhan said the standards and requirements will be similar to those in the three departments. The minimum GPA for admission will be 2.75. Another question came up about admitting students with non-engineering backgrounds. Sarhan said students from all STEM areas would be considered, however, for the most part it will be students with engineering backgrounds. The Dean asked if the qualifications would state that a bachelor's in engineering would be required. Sarhan said a student's qualifications would be considered to make sure they can succeed in the program. Much of the course will be in-person, but there will be on-line and hybrid courses. The human element and ethics were raised by a Grad Council member. Sarhan said ethical considerations will be embedded in the coursework. It was noted that the introduction to AI class had two chapters on ethics.

A poll was launched and the MS in Artificial Intelligence was approved

The discussion next turned to the MS in Environmental Science (Track A). Mark Baskaran said the program will enable faculty to conduct more research with the help of a bigger pool of graduate students. There are 30 total credit hours of which 8 are the thesis.

A poll was launched and the MS in Environmental Science was approved

Report from Asra Akhlag, Student Senate Representative

She was unable to attend and will send a report to Grad Council.

Report on Proposed Deferral Policy, Graduate Admissions Director Sherry Quinn

The proposed policy states that deferrals may be granted for admission for up to one year following the original term of application. Students seeking a deferral must contact their department chair or graduate program director to request a deferral. The deferral is valid for up to 12 months and only students who have not been registered for courses may be considered for deferral. Students would need to reapply for any funding opportunities originally offered. Linda Beale asked why only those who have **not** registered could be considered for a deferral. The Dean suggested that the application for deferral contain a question on if the student has registered for classes. She noted that if a student has registered for classes, a whole other process is needed. Beale said there could be a form when the deferral was granted to allow students to withdraw. Another Grad Council member said this is an important proposal since many students are recruited and then lost because they want a deferral and don't want to reapply. This will be a valuable tool for grad directors. Discussion then ensued about students who want to come to WSU in an earlier term than the one they were admitted. The student in question here wanted to come in early to take courses. The Dean said many students come in early to start research the summer before they start taking classes. Quinn said she would incorporate changes that were discussed at the meeting and bring the proposal back to Grad Council in April. She added that systems will be updated and a new decision code in Banner would be added in the next few months once a proposal is approved.

New Business

There was no new business.

Report from Linda Beale, President of the Academic Senate

The Senate report approved three resolutions in plenary session. The first is the report on the future of higher education, which now goes to the President and BoG for consideration and to assist with strategic planning in the next five years. The second concerns an anti-bullying policy, however this has stalled after UM had litigation over their attempt to institute an anti-bullying policy. General Counsel didn't want WSU to go any further than UM. A Senate Ad-Hoc Committee worked strenuously to develop a proposal that was then converted into a statement of values. The proposed the University adopt the statement with an agenda of resources that would be available on-line to provide information and support. Bullying came up as the most significant issue in the climate survey 3-4 years ago. She said an anti-bullying statement was adopted and passed along to the President and BoG with the hope that the statement will be adopted in some way. This statement differs from a policy since there are no penalties or procedures attached.

She said an email was sent earlier today from her and Provost Kornbluh about the online course materials corporations who make profits off students and try to get faculty to supply all of their course materials for free. They do not tell faculty what they will do with their course materials. These companies primarily serve as a cheating and plagiarism source for students. She said new professors coming in should be aware of these groups and their lack of transparency. They also charge students a fee for access. There is a case in California where students uploaded material to create concern about critical race theory in keeping with a right-wing agenda. The email makes it clear that these for-profit corporations and not open educational resources.

A third issue concerns developments in SOM and the impact on research and graduate medical education programs. The interim Dean is coming to the Senate's plenary session April 6th. The new CFO will also provide a budget update and there will be a 10-minute visit with Governor Mark Gaffney where he will talk about his vision for the university and the mission of the BoG.

Finally, members of the Senate who worked on one of the ad hoc committees are still working to get a student code of conduct change that advises faculty when deans or department chair change grades in cases of academic misconduct. More transparency is needed. She will share the language once it's finalized. Negotiations are ongoing with the General Counsel. A Grad Council member asked Beale about saving course materials on the cloud in Canvas. Beale said this is a licensing platform that we use as a university and differs from an app like Chegg or Course Hero. These companies are getting mailing lists for academics and attempting to "vacuum" up faculty resources. Students can search by categories and by school allowing them to look up if a specific test has been uploaded. This is worrisome in terms of cheating and plagiarism.

Report of the Curriculum and Instruction Committee Liaison, David Moss

Nothing to report.

Report of the Research Committee Liaison to the Academic Senate, Ed Cackett

Nothing to report.

Academic Standards vote on posthumous degree policy

The revised document was shared with the edits suggested by Linda Beale.

A poll was launched and the revised and amended policy was approved.

A motion was made to adjourn, seconded and approved. The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Wood

Graduate Program Director