



## Graduate Council September 18, 2024 Agenda

- I. **Report of the Chair**
  - a. Review and approval of May 15, 2024 minutes (pages 2-7)
- II. **Executive Committee (Preethy Samuel, Chair)**
  - a. **9/11/24 meeting recap**
  - b. **Vacant position on Executive Committee 2024-25 (VOTE)**
- III. **Academic Standards (Jeff Pruchnic)**
- IV. **Inclusive Excellence (Jeff Pruchnic)**
- V. **New Programs and Program Review Committee (NPPR) (Todd Leff)**
  - a. **New Programs (VOTES)**
    - i. **INSPIRE**  
<https://nextbulletins.wayne.edu/programadmin/?key=746>
    - ii. **MED proposals**  
<https://nextbulletins.wayne.edu/programadmin/?key=771>  
<https://nextbulletins.wayne.edu/programadmin/?key=770>  
<https://nextbulletins.wayne.edu/programadmin/?key=772>
  - b. **Discontinuances (VOTES)**
    - i. **Educational Psychology MED**  
<https://nextbulletins.wayne.edu/courseleaf/approve/?role=NPPR>
    - ii. **Pediatric Anesthesia Graduate Certificate (EACPHS)**  
<https://nextbulletins.wayne.edu/courseleaf/approve/?role=NPPR>
- VI. **Awards & Fellowships (Todd Leff)**
- VII. **Pathway to Faculty**
- VIII. **Report of the Academic Senate Liaisons**
  - a. Curriculum and Instruction Committee
  - b. Facilities, Support Services & Technology Committee
  - c. **Santanu Mitra**, Budget Committee
  - d. **Chris Kelly**, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee
  - e. **Stella Resko**, Faculty Affairs Committee
  - f. **Bob Reynolds**, Research Committee
  - g. **Stephen Chrisomalis**, Student Affairs Committee
  - h. **Linda Beale**, Academic Senate President
- IX. **Adjournment**

## PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES



### Graduate Council May 15, 2024, 2 p.m. Meeting #1

- X. **Report of the Chair**
  - a. Review and approval of April 17, 2024 minutes and amendment (pages 2-6)
- XI. **Executive Committee (Preethy Samuel, Chair)**
- XII. **Academic Standards (Jeff Pruchnic)**
  - a. **PhD credit hour reduction**
- XIII. **Inclusive Excellence (Jeff Pruchnic)**
- XIV. **New Programs and Program Review Committee (NPPR) (Todd Leff)**
- XV. **Awards & Fellowships (Todd Leff)**
- XVI. **Pathway to Faculty (Amanda Bryant-Friedrich for Angulique Outlaw)**
- XVII. **Recognition of outgoing GC members**
  - a. Tamara Hew-Butler, Kinesiology, College of Ed
  - b. Larry Matherly, Cancer Biology, SOM
  - c. Sarah Pearline, Theater and Dance, FPCA
- XVIII. **Report of the Academic Senate Liaisons**
  - a. Fred Vultee, **Curriculum and Instruction Committee**
  - b. Robert Reynolds, **Facilities, Support Services & Technology Committee**
  - c. Stella Resko, **Faculty Affairs Committee**
  - d. Jeremy Kodanko, **Research Committee**
  - e. Stephen Chrisomalis, **Student Affairs Committee**
  - f. Linda Beale, **Academic Senate President**
- XIX. **Adjournment**

**Attendees:** Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, Sue Brown, Allana Clarke, Agbaglah Gbemeho, Stephen Chrisomalis, Christine D'Arpa, Andrew Garrett, Tamara Hew-Butler, Susan Gabel, Nancy George, Paul Johnson, Christopher Kelly, Ulrike Klueh, Jeremy Kodanko, Jeffrey Martin, Todd Leff, Larry Matherly, David Moss, Leanne Nantais-Smith, Angulique Outlaw, Lisa Panisch, Jeff Pruchnic, Kristen Purrington, Sherry Quinn, Stella Resko, Bob Reynolds, Preethy Samuel, Andrea Tangari, Stephanie Tong, Sally Villasenor, Fred Vultee, Daniel Walz, Jennifer Wareham, Mary Wood, Zhengping Yi, Young Ro-Yoon

**Absent with Notice:** Santanu Mitra

**Absent without notice:** Sarah Pearline, Paul Beasley, Linda Beale, Linda Hazlett, Kelly Young

The Dean called the meeting to order and said the first report would be from the Academic Standards Committee.

### **Academic Standards Committee**

Jeff Pruchnic reported that the move to reduce dissertation credit hours from 30 to 18 had been discussed at the April meeting and a motion for the reduction was on the floor. The Dean said that she has received a request from the Provost's Committee on PhD Education to amend the current motion and that it will be presented by Bob Reynolds, who is on the Grad Council and several other committees. Reynolds reported that the amendment was approved by the Academic Standards Committee on Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. The amendment consists of three key portions. First, reduce dissertation credit hours from 30 to 18 and make the credits variable. Second, reduce total amount of minimum credits from 90 to 60, and third, make the changes applicable to current and new students. A question came up regarding current students and it was noted that students could opt for the current system or move to the new system. Some students require the current configuration to complete their PhD. Another question came up regarding transfer credits and if they remain at 32. Pruchnic said programs will determine whether they want to reduce curricular credits. This will be part of a process that gets underway in the fall. Departments will have the option of a smaller number of transfer credits depending on what makes sense for them. Candidacy is another issue that will need further discussion.

It was mentioned that the Academic Senate Policy Committee had unanimously approved the amendment earlier in the week. Another Grad Council member asked if there was a need to decide on this matter today and if would be prudent to delay a decision until fall. Another member said momentum builds throughout the academic year, but slows down over the summer. He added that the Provost's PhD Committee has been discussing the matter since summer 2023 and it's time for action. Todd Leff said there is urgency for the dissertation reduction since administrative procedures need to be put in place for fall. He said the reduction should be voted on as a package. It was also noted that bringing two separate reduction packages may confuse the Board of Governors. It was added that the measures currently under consideration allow departments the autonomy to set their own requirements. The Provost has signaled she will approve the reductions.

*The motion to approve the amendment for the reduction of the minimum number of PhD credits hours as recommended by the Provost's Committee on PhD Education was called for a vote. The wording of the motion required modification and the Dean moved to the next agenda item while the revision was being made.*

### **Approval of April 2024 minutes and amendment to minutes**

The Dean said the motion to forward the Rumble Report and Recommendations had passed at the April meeting once the votes were validated in the Zoom poll following the meeting. At the April meeting, it was announced that the measure failed to garner enough votes. She said the poll was distributed with the April minutes to demonstrate that it indeed had passed.

*The Dean called for a show of hands for approval of the minutes and amendment as written. The minutes and amendment were approved.*

*The **amendment** from the Provost's Committee on PhD Education to the original PhD dissertation credit hour reduction motion was emailed to voting members through a MS Form. The motion unanimously passed with 23 yea votes, and 0 nays.*

### **Executive Committee**

While the MS form for the second motion to reduce dissertation credits was being prepared, Preethy Samuel reported that discussion focused on PhD credit hour reduction, correction of the April vote on the Rumble report and seating of new Graduate Council members.

### **Awards and Fellowships Committee**

Leff reported that GPS is the next order of business for fall. Most members of the current committee will stay on in 2024-25.

### **Pathway to Faculty**

Angulique Outlaw reported that all new hires for the latest cycle will start this summer. The Dean added incoming fellows will be introduced to the Grad Council in the fall. She said she is now PI of the Melon Grant with the departure of the former provost. This means the Grad School will be doing hiring for the Detroit Center for Black Studies. Outlaw said a former fellow in social work is transitioning to faculty. Two fellows have thus far transitioned to assistant professorships.

### **Recognition of outgoing Grad Council members**

Larry Matherly and Tami Hew-Butler were recognized. Sarah Pearline was not present.

*The **original motion** to reduce the number of **PhD dissertation credits from 30 to 18** was emailed to voting members through a MS form. The motion passed unanimously with 23 yea votes and 0 nays.*

### **Fred Vultee, Curriculum and Instruction Committee**

Many issues discussed at the committee concerned UG, however, language concerning academic probation may impact graduate education.

### **Robert Reynolds, Facilities, Support Services & Technology Committee**

Building maintenance and accessibility issues were discussed. Specifically, the need for a person on call to assist with issues in a certain building.

**Stella Resko, Faculty Affairs Committee**

Academic grievances were discussed and mentoring of doctoral students.

Bob Reynolds mentioned that the Academic Senate's AI Committee has drafted a statement on how AI should be incorporated into academic processes at WSU.

**Jeremy Kodanko, Research Committee**

No report this month.

**Stephen Chrisomalis, Student Affairs Committee**

Next year there will be a major focus on academic freedom, speech rights and extra-mural speech.

**Christopher Kelly, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee**

The DEI Committee is looking at syllabi and accommodating different religious practices.

Hearing no further business, the Dean adjourned the final meeting of the 2023-24 Graduate Council.

*A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Wood  
Graduate School Program Director



## Graduate Council (2024-2025) May 15, 2024 Meeting #2

### I. Welcome from the Chair

### II. Introduction of new GC members (2024-25)

- a. Susan Gabel, Teacher Education, College of Ed
- b. Amanda Miller, Teacher Education, College of Ed
- c. Kristen Purrington, Oncology, SOM
- d. Allana Clarke, Art and Art History, FPCA
- e. Stephanie Tong, Communication, FPCA (for Fred Vultee, Fall 2024)
- f. Nancy George, College of Nursing

### III. Election of three Executive Committee members for 2024-25

#### a. Nominees

- i. Uli Klueh, Biomedical Engineering, ENG
- ii. Jeremy Kodanko, Chemistry, CLAS
- iii. David Moss, Law School

### IV. Adjournment

The meeting was called to order by Dean Bryant-Friedrich. The incoming members of the Graduate Council (listed above) were introduced and welcomed.

### **Executive Committee**

The Dean announced that she has appointed three members to the 2024-25 Executive Committee in accordance with the bylaws. They are Preethy Samuel, Bob Reynolds and Chris Kelly.

Those whose names were put in nomination are Jeremy Kodanko, Uli Klueh and David Moss.

*The motion to approve the slate of nominated Executive Committee members was emailed to voting members through a MS form. The slate was approved unanimously.*

The Dean asked if the membership had topics to bring before the 2024-25 Graduate Council.

The topics brought forward are the following:

- Expansion of the definition of graduate faculty status
- Waiving TOEFL (based on institution not country)
- Funding for master's students and availability of scholarships
- Access to data for doctoral and master's programs

The Dean noted that implementation of the PhD credit hour reduction is another matter that will come before the Council. Another Grad Council member said it would be helpful to have across-the-board performance metrics for high-level decision making.

*Hearing no other business, the Dean called for a motion to adjourn, which was seconded. The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Wood  
Graduate School Program Director