



Graduate Council

2-3:30 p.m., November 16, 2022

Remote: <https://wayne-edu.zoom.us/j/94075781394?pwd=c0JKNIRiTjFhNDA5QXR0NWVvUjRpUT09>

- I. Report of the Chair
 - a. **VOTE:** Review and approval of October 2022 minutes (page 2)
 - b. GradCAS update
 - c. Accelerated Master's Programs (AMP)
- II. Executive Committee (Ed Cackett, Chair)
- III. NPPR (Todd Leff, Chair)
 - a. **VOTE:** Program deactivation for MS in Athletic Training, College of Ed
- IV. Academic Standards Committee (Jeff Pruchnic, Chair)
 - a. Changes to credit transfer policy for ungraded coursework
- V. **VOTE:** Completion of RCR course to advance to PhD candidacy (Todd Leff)
- VI. **VOTE:** Creation of zero credit master's maintenance course (Jeff Pruchnic)
- VII. Student Senate report (Mohamed Dabaja)
- VIII. New Business
- IX. Report of the Academic Senate Liaisons
 - a. Linda Beale, Academic Senate
 - b. Robert Reynolds, Research Committee
 - c. David Moss, Curriculum and Instruction Committee
- X. Adjournment

Graduate Council

October 19, 2022 Minutes

Report of the Chair

The Dean called the meeting to order and noted we were moving to having the GC meeting in-person. She welcomed those in the room and those joining by Zoom.

A motion was made and seconded to approve 9/21/22 minutes. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote by a show of hands in the room and affirmative votes on the Zoom poll for those joining remotely.

Awards and Scholarships (A&S) and Inclusive Excellence (IE) Committees

The Dean said the committees have met and she outlined the charge for each. She noted the A&S Committee will also have the responsibility to review the awards and scholarships given by the Grad School. She has asked the committee to take one award, scholarship or fellowship at a time because they are complicated. One such award will be the Graduate and Professional Scholarship (GPS), which has been used for recruiting. She said the committee will be looking at our resources and the best ways to recruit students. Each S/C has a rep on the committee. She said she was concerned with the flow of communication between the GC and grad program directors and asked the council to come forward with ideas on how to improve that communication.

Executive Committee, Ed Cackett

The reduction of dissertation credits will result in about a \$300K loss in tuition revenue per year according to an analysis conducted by Todd Leff. This information will be provided to the Provost for next steps. He has asked for volunteers to chair the two new standing committees. Next, there was discussion about the two PhD commencements after an earlier plan to hold only one in the spring was dropped. Hooding was brought up, and it was noted that the upcoming ceremonies will be held in the WSU Field House, where hooding is much easier.

The Dean said the two other items for a vote today on RCR training for candidacy and the master's maintenance would be tabled to give new members more time to become familiar with the proposals. One GC member asked for clarification on lost revenue with the dissertation credit hour decrease and it was confirmed that it would be around \$300K in external grants and from self-paid students (both are considered external funding). The discussion returned to the master's maintenance course and who would enforce this. It was noted that there are very few or no consequences for NOT registering for maintenance coursework. The Dean noted that the decentralization of master's programs can be a negative

when it comes to enforcement. She said the Grad School has the skills and access to reports to tell us when students are not registered. In situations where students owed money for maintenance courses over the course of several semesters, the amount could be reduced depending on the situation. It will not be used as a weapon against a student who is trying to graduate. It was noted that the messaging should focus on the benefits of the maintenance credit and the fact that students will stay connected to the university this way. There was next discussion on the mechanism to generate a bill for these credits at the point of graduation. Would it go back into a student's record to look for semesters where the student did not register for the course? The discussion turned to PhD students who may not register for maintenance credits and may skip a semester. If someone does not register for these credits, a hold could be issued. Several members present said they would appreciate if the Grad School would be doing this kind of enforcement to relieve grad directors of this administrative burden. There was discussion of leave policies and the Dean asked the EC to take on this issue in the future.

Student Senate Report

Mohamed Dabaja said the Student Senate was meeting tomorrow and he would have a report at the next GC meeting.

Academic Senate, Linda Beale

Presidential Search

The Presidential search committee has not yet been announced, but it appears from the BoG it will be Mark Gaffney, Shirley Stancato, Marilyn Kelly and Michael Busuito. They expect to have a dean or two, an Academic Senate member, an AAUP rep, maybe 1-2 other faculty, a student member, and at least one community member and perhaps a major donor. In terms of process, Mark Gaffney said they would bring one finalist back to meet with various constituencies. She said bringing 2-3 candidates back to meet with stakeholders would be more appropriate. The finalists could meet with the Grad Council, the Policy Committee, Deans, VPS and AVPs since these groups can keep confidentiality. The search firms say we would lose good candidates if we had an open, transparent process. Listening sessions have been occurring on campus to collect feedback from various stakeholders, which are open to anybody. She encouraged GC members to attend and press for bringing 2-3 finalists in.

Masks on Campus

She has been discussing masks with faculty. She said at the November 2nd plenary Senate session faculty will be surveyed about masks on campus and in classes. Some have said get rid of the masks, whereas others have said faculty should have the right to require masks in the classroom. It should be either a campus mandate or individual faculty should have the right to require it. Next, the GC was asked to answer an impromptu poll about masks with the following four options: Keep the mask mandate in place; get rid of the mask mandate; allow

determination by individual faculty; or don't care. One GC member noted the campuswide public health committee should make the decision on this. It was noted that there is no enforcement mechanism for masks especially as class sizes become larger. This makes it difficult for faculty to enforce the mandate during class time.

Adult Learners

Beale said there was discussion about recruiting adult learners at the Provost's Academic Leadership meeting this week. There is a little-known adult learners team that will come to the Policy Committee and other Senate committees in the weeks ahead. She noted that there was not a clear definition of an adult learner and who we are targeting. She will have further meeting on this issue at the next GC meeting.

Snow Closure Policy

Last winter, there was a closure on a day when we ended up receiving very little snow. However, the following day the weather conditions were even more hazardous. It raised a lot of questions concerning teaching an in-person class remotely and created confusion. A campus policy is needed to clearly state when we move to remote operations vs. campus closures that are full closures. Should it be stated an in-person class could be moved to a synchronous remote class at the same time? Concerns were raised over moving the class to asynchronous and the amount of prep time required. Further, students could get far behind because they now have to manage asynchronous units. A graduate program officer reported that she created a snow day policy for her S/C to give them a choice since the University did not have an overall policy. Another GC member noted the problem of having kids at home and the expectation that you will come in and teach your class on campus without the option of teaching remotely. Another member said his national accrediting body has a limit on the number of remote classes per semester. He said a one-size-fits-all policy could be troublesome for some S/C. He said a university closure does not count as a remote class for the accreditors, and that even with a policy in place, you're going to have exceptions and waivers.

The poll on masks was then launched. The results were the following: 36% want to keep mask mandate, 14% want to get rid of mandate and 50% want to make it faculty choice and 4% didn't care. The Dean and others agreed that the consensus was faculty choice, but with back up from the administration. Beale added that the campus daily screener may be eliminated soon by the Public Health Committee chaired by Dean Clabo.

Report of the Research Committee, Bob Reynolds

Bob Reynolds was not available to make the report.

Report of the Curriculum and Instruction Committee, David Moss

The committee discussed the charge to the committee from the Academic Senate with 10-20 that were prioritized, but no decisions were made. One high priority item was probation for undergrads and experiential education for certificates.

Block Tuition

The Dean did wrap up the meeting by mentioning the Academic Leadership Committee and the discussion on block tuition, which the university is only considering for undergrads. It encouraged undergrads to go full-time. You would pay the same tuition for 12-18 credits. Under this proposal, there is an increase in the per credit charge for less than 12 credits. The goal may be to increase financial aid for these students who may be working and going part-time. The GC would need to discuss a credit block tuition plan if it eventually is proposed at the graduate level.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 3:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Wood
Program Director*