



Graduate Council (2021-2022)

May 11, 2022 2-2:30 p.m.

<https://wayne-edu.zoom.us/j/94737509799?pwd=T0tzaUtBZWg5T1RBRGVhQlQ3eWI5Zz09>

- I. **Report of the Chair**
 - a. Review and approval of April 2022 minutes (page 2)
- II. **Executive Committee (Fred Vultee, Chair)**
- III. **New Programs and Program Review Committee (NPPR) (Todd Leff, Chair): Year in Review**
- IV. **Student Senate report (read on behalf of Asra Akhlaq)**
- V. **New Business**
- VI. **Report of the Academic Senate Liaisons**
 - a. Linda Beale, Academic Senate
 - b. Ed Cackett, Research Committee
 - c. David Moss, Curriculum and Instruction Committee
 - d. Paul Dubinsky, Budget Committee
- VII. **Adjournment**



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- I. **Welcome from the Chair**
- II. **Introduction of new Graduate Council members (2022-23)**
 - a. Tamara Hew-Butler, Kinesiology, Health & Sport Studies, Education
 - b. Young-Ro Yoon, Economics, CLAS
 - c. Marcus Dickson, Psychology, CLAS
 - d. Athena Kheibara, Social Work
 - e. Stella Resko, Social Work (joining at 3 p.m.)

- f. Mohamed Dabaja, Biological Sciences, Student Senate (unable to attend)
- III. **Election of three Executive Committee members**
 - a. **Nominees**
 - i. Edward Cackett, Physics, CLAS
 - ii. April Vallerand, Nursing
 - iii. Fred Vultee, Communication, FPCA
 - iv. Nominations from the floor
- IV. **Adjournment**

Graduate Council Meeting Notes: April 20, 2022, 2-3:30 p.m.

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

- V. **Report of the Chair**
 - a. Review and approval of March 2022 minutes (page 2)
 - b. Revised deferral policy (attached to calendar invite)
- VI. **Executive Committee (Fred Vultee, Chair)**
- VII. **Academic Standard Committee (Jeff Pruchnic, Chair)**
- VIII. **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
- IX. **Graduate Student report from Student Senate representative (Asra Akhlaq)**
- X. **New Business**
- XI. **Report of the Academic Senate Liaisons**
 - e. Linda Beale, Academic Senate
 - f. Ed Cackett, Research Committee
 - g. David Moss, Curriculum and Instruction Committee
- XII. **Adjournment**

Attendees:

Asra Akhlaq, Linda Beale, Abe Biswas, Ed Cackett, Deborah Charboneau, Christine Chow, Steve Chrisomalis, Mary Clark, Christine D'Arpa, Rosanne DiZazzo-Miller, Paul Dubinsky, Paul Johnson, Loreleigh Keashly, Chera Kee, Poco Kernsmith, Todd Leff, Carolyn Loh, Jeffrey Martin, Larry Matherly, Mary Anne McCoy, David Moss, Angulique Outlaw, Deborah Patterson, Sarah Pearline, Jeff Pruchnic, Robert Reynolds, Malathy Shekhar, Rebeccah Sokol, Sokol Todi, Jasmine Ulmer, Fred Vultee, April Vallerand, Dan Walz, Mary Wood, Attila Yaprak

Absent with notice:

Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, Sherry Quinn, Rebecca Sokol

Absent without notice:

Golam Newaz, Linda Hazlett, Ken Jackson, Weisong Shi, Fred Vultee, Zhengping Yi

Guests:

Rayman Mohamed

Associate Dean Todd Leff opened the meeting on behalf of Dean Amanda Bryant-Friedrich and asked for a motion to approve the March 2022 minutes. A motion was made, seconded and the March minutes were approved.

Report of the Chair, Associate Dean Todd Leff (on behalf of Dean Amanda Bryant-Friedrich)

The Graduate Admissions Deferral policy discussed at the March meeting was first on the agenda. A sentence in the policy was struck following the March meeting.

A motion was made to approve the policy, seconded and the motion passed by Zoom poll.

Leff mentioned the recent change to the bylaws allows for a May meeting. He said the EC discussed a meeting on May 11th before the nine-month faculty appointment ends on May 16th. At this meeting, there will be a vote for the three new members of the EC in accordance with the bylaws. GC members will be given the opportunity to nominate or self-nominate in advance of the meeting. The Dean will appoint the remaining three members of EC.

Academic Standards, Jeff Pruchnic, Chair

Pruchnic reported that the recently approved posthumous degree policy for master's and PhDs will go before the BoG in April and he will keep GC updated on its progress. He then turned to the two new GC standing committees following the February approval of bylaw changes. He said the plan is to use the election process in the schools/colleges to seat these committees, however for fall 2022 the Dean will ask the deans to nominate a member to these committees.

NPPR, Todd Leff, Chair

Two items were reviewed by NPPR in April. The first discussed a graduate certificate in urban sustainability from the Department of Urban Studies and Planning. Department chairman Mohamad Rayman summarized the proposal. He said the program collaborated with other departments in designing the curriculum. There is a significant demand for this program and four letters of support from community/civic groups were mentioned to demonstrate support. There are 9 required courses and 6 electives. They are aiming to enroll students who are already doing a master's program or PhD and those from outside WSU as well. A question came up regarding electives and an overlap between this program and the dual title PhD programs in urban sustainability. Mohamad said there is a specific list of elective courses. He said the dual title programs are specific to certain departments and he didn't see an overlap. Leff pointed out that a graduate certificate is a more formal credential compared to the dual title which amounts

to a designation on a transcript. He said they are not competing programs. He said there is not much of a chance of losing students from the dual title program to the master's certificate. A GC member asked how we distinguish the multiple urban sustainability programs at Wayne State. Another question came up about the expectations for non-WSU students and if there had been a market analysis and the demand from employers in the region. Mohamed said there are no other urban sustainability certificates offered in Michigan. He mentioned the four letters from the local governmental entities and non-profits in support of the certificate. He added the program is for professionals who already have a bachelor's.

A motion to approve was made and seconded. A poll was launched and the graduate certificate in urban sustainability was approved.

The second item on the agenda was a program inactivation for a dual title PhD program in Pharmacology and urban sustainability. There are multiple urban sustainability dual title programs on campus, however the pharmacology program has never enrolled a single student. The department says there is no student interest and they want to take the program off the books.

A motion to approve the inactivation was made and seconded. A poll was launched and the deactivation was approved.

Report from Asra Akhlaq, Student Senate Representative

The Student Senate has formed a sustainability project group headed by Akhlaq. One goal is to lower the use of single-use plastic on campus. A robust recycling program with signage and bins is another goal of the project. A clothing drive will also be conducted. There also is an environmental strategic plan which launches in the fall. She next discussed a gardening project near the UG library, which reuses rainwater. She also announced that her term on the Senate is ending. A GC member asked how the latest gardening project relates to the previous SEED program run by the Department of Urban Planning and Studies. It was noted the SEED is no longer in operation.

New Business

There was no new business.

Report from Linda Beale, President of the Academic Senate

Beale said President Wilson will make a report to the May plenary session the Senate and Shirley Stanccato from the BoG will also be speaking. In April, the chair of the BoG spoke. She said it's good to hear the vision of BoG members. The plenary sessions are open and she encouraged GC members to attend. She said the Policy Committee has been given a role in interviewing Dean candidates in MISB, FPCA and engineering. They tend to ask questions about shared governance, fundraising and contributions to recruitment and success of graduate students. A consensus memo is produced for each candidate and given to the search committee and the Provost.

Another issue under consideration is the faculty role in the grade appeals process. They hope to bring the matter to the May plenary session. She said there is an unusual discretion allowed to chairs and deans to overthrow faculty decisions about academic misconduct. There should be more oversight in terms of the release of information about those which annually occur to departmental and school/college faculty. Bias can come into play. They also are working on research misconduct issues with concerns that the process is too controlled by the VPR. They are seeking an oversight process that prevents bias that is overly aggressive or not aggressive enough to faculty.

There is also work on SOM issues. There are issues connected with morale and DEI. It's a complex situation. Finally, issues regarding university centers and school/college center are of concern. Processes here have been ignored and issues related to chartering must be addressed. Some centers have only one person. Other centers are not using standardized budgeting procedures. One center is in the process of getting a permanent charter. There have been discussions with the Provost about an actual oversight process involving someone from outside the center with subject matter expertise. In the end, the goal is to make the center's more fruitful and to enhance the reputation of the university.

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.

Report of the Budget Committee Liaison, Paul Dubinsky

He will report at the May GC meeting.

Budget Matters

Linda Beale mentioned that the Budget Planning Council has finished its hearings with all the S/C and divisions conducted from February-April. Recommendations to the Provost and CFO will be made in the next week. The goal is to not have massive cuts this year. However, that may mean cuts in the next year if we don't increase revenues, including the use of one-time funding to cover structural deficits and hopefully enrollment increases. The Provost and CFO have been going to individual S/Cs talking about these issues and showing how a relatively small deficit can mushroom in future years if not managed. We must care about financial sustainability over the long term. The budget process now is moving to a stronger long-term process where we're thinking ahead. We need to pay close attention to how programs are working and whether resources need to be reallocated within S/Cs. The expectation is minimal cuts and a tuition increase to address deficits. Also needed is lots of faculty attention to student recruitment and retention.

A motion was made to adjourn, seconded and approved. The meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary E. Wood
Graduate Program Director