



Date: 16th of November 2022, 3:00 PM-5:00 PM

Location: [Virtual Meeting via WebEx](#)

Subject: Graduate Faculty Council of The Graduate School (GFC) meeting minutes

Attendees: Mary Anne Amalaradjou, Marina Astitha, David Atkin, Fakhreddin Azimi, Heather Battaly, Talia Bar, Mary Bernstein (*Ex-Officio*), Deborah Bolnick, Preston Britner, Kelly Burke, Jack Corcoran (*Ex-Officio*, *Recording Secretary*), Thomas Craemer, Jose Cruz, Moustapha Diaby, Valerie Duffy, Nathan Fiala, Victoria Ford Smith, Travis Grossner, Kent Holsinger (*Ex-Officio*), Magdalena Kaufmann, Todd Kravet, Barbara Kream (*Ex-Officio*), Nicole Landi, D. Betsy McCoach, Michael J. O'Neill, William Ouimet, Dan Pejril, Gianna Raimondi (*Ex-Officio*), Diana Rios, Chadwick Rittenhouse, Archana Sanjay, Tammie Spaulding, Helen Swede, Nathaniel Trumbull, Penny Vlahos, Andrew Wiemer, Ping Zhang, Yuping Zhang

Absent: Christopher Blesso, Zeljko Boskovic, Hannah Dostal, Niloy Dutta, David Embrick, Monty Escabi, Meg Feely, Alexandra Freidus, Neal Glaviano, Louis Hanzlik, Thomas Hayes, Jacqueline Loss, Elizabeth Mayerson, Ovidiu Munteanu, Julian Norato, Eugene Pinkhassik, Rosa Raudales, Guillermo Risatti, Alexander Russell, Kurt Schwenk, Helena Silva, Prabhakar Singh, Matthew Stuber, Christine Tocchi, Judith Thorpe, Aditya Tadinada, Randall Walikonis, Suzanne Wilson, Alexander Woodward, Xinyu Zhao

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1. The meeting is called to order at 3:03 pm.
 2. Presented for voting: Approval of the Minutes from the October 26, 2022, meeting.
 - a. A motion is made to approve the previous meeting's minutes by Andrew Wiemer. The motion is seconded by Mary Anne Amalaradjou. The minutes are approved unanimously.
 3. Old Business:

- a. Vote on Proposed Bylaws Revision Re. Academic Integrity
 - i. Proposed Bylaws Changes related to the Office of Academic Integrity

Changes to Section X.C.a (COMPLAINT, APPEAL, AND HEARING PROCEDURES)

Filing an Appeal:

A graduate student may file an appeal with The Graduate School when they disagree ~~are in disagreement~~ with actions taken or academic consequences imposed by an individual faculty member, graduate program, department, school, or college and when all good faith efforts to resolve the concern either through direct communication with the individual(s) involved or through applicable procedures in the graduate program, department, school, or college, have failed. Categories of actions or academic consequences that an appeal might address include, but are not limited to, academic dismissal and termination of status. Appeals related to allegations of academic, scholarly, or professional misconduct are addressed in Section XI. the following:

~~Academic dismissal.~~

~~Termination of status.~~

~~Allegation of scholarly misconduct.~~

~~Academic consequences imposed by allegation of scholarly misconduct.~~

It is clarified to the GFC that this motion to approve is being presented if the University Senate doesn't approve of the new Office of Academic Integrity.

A motion to approve this change is made by Thomas Craemer. The motion is seconded by Mary Anne Amalaradjou. The motion is passed unanimously by the Graduate Faculty Council.

- ii. Proposed Bylaws Changes related to Section XI: Scholarly Integrity and Academic Misconduct

~~Section A. d. The Dean of The Graduate School shall coordinate the reporting, investigation, and determination of alleged breaches of scholarly integrity by graduate students and postdoctoral scholars in accordance with this policy. Academic and scholarly integrity issues related to graduate students are governed by the~~

University's Academic, Scholarly, and Professional Integrity and Misconduct Policy and the associated procedures for addressing violations of this policy, both of which are endorsed by The Graduate School. Changes to this policy or the associated procedures can only be made following the convening of a committee that brings together all of the above relevant stakeholders, including members of the University Senate and Graduate Faculty Council, and approval of those changes by both the University Senate and the Graduate Faculty Council.

Section A. f. If a graduate student accused of scholarly misconduct is part of a ~~combined~~ dual degree program where different policies regarding academic misconduct might apply, the appropriate Associate Dean of the Graduate School, (whether for Storrs and the regional campuses or UConn Health) and the academic leader of in conjunction with the dean(s) of the other degree programs, will determine whether the complaint will be addressed in accordance with these procedures or in accordance with those of the other degree program, using the procedures of the program to which the alleged misconduct is more germane.

Deletion of sections XI B, C, and D which will be handled by the new Office.

Section B. Definitions of Scholarly Misconduct

Section C. Addressing Misconduct Allegedly Committed Within an Academic Course

Section D. Misconduct Allegedly Committed Outside of an Academic Course

There is a brief discussion and subsequent explanation regarding some of the language above. There is no further questions or discussions.

A motion to approve this change is made by Thomas Craemer. The motion is seconded by D. Betsy McCoach. The motion is passed unanimously by the Graduate Faculty Council.

- b. Vote on Proposed Bylaws Revision Re. Sixth Year Certificates & Transfer Credits
 - i. **Current by-laws language (Section VII.C.d.):**

Certificate students may not use courses completed at other institutions to satisfy requirements for a University of Connecticut certificate program.

ii. Proposed change in by-laws language (Section VII.C.d.):

Certificate students may not use courses completed at other institutions to satisfy requirements for a University of Connecticut certificate program. However post-master's/sixth year certificates that require 30 or more credits for completion follow the rules for transfer credits if there is an "equivalent master's degree." An equivalent master's degree is one that has the same name and substantially similar requirements as the post-master's/sixth year certificates.

iii. Proposed new (clean) by-laws language (Section VII.C.d.):

Certificate students may not use courses completed at other institutions to satisfy requirements for a University of Connecticut certificate program. However post-master's/sixth year certificates that require 30 or more credits for completion follow the rules for transfer credits if there is an "equivalent master's degree." An equivalent master's degree is one that has the same name and substantially similar requirements as the post-master's/sixth year certificates.

A motion to approve this change is made by Mary Anne Amalaradjou. The motion is seconded by Thomas Craemer. The motion is passed unanimously by the Graduate Faculty Council.

c. Vote on Proposed Bylaws Revision Re. Repeating an Audited Course for Credit

i. Current by-laws language (Section V.C.a.):

Repeating Courses:

a. No student shall receive credit for the same course twice, unless repeating the course is specifically authorized in the Graduate Catalog, as in a variable content course. Courses with the same number that cover the same course content cannot be counted more than once for credit. However, a student may repeat a course once in order to earn a higher grade.

ii. Proposed change in by-laws language (Section V.C.a.):

Repeating Courses:

a. No student shall receive credit for the same course twice, unless repeating the course is specifically authorized in the Graduate Catalog, as in a variable content course. Courses with the same number that cover the same course content cannot be counted more than once for credit. However, a student may repeat a course once in order to earn a higher grade. A student may repeat a course once that they have previously audited for credit or converted to pass/fail.

iii. **Proposed new (clean) by-laws language (Section V.C.a.):**

Repeating Courses:

a. No student shall receive credit for the same course twice, unless repeating the course is specifically authorized in the Graduate Catalog, as in a variable content course. Courses with the same number that cover the same course content cannot be counted more than once for credit. However, a student may repeat a course once in order to earn a higher grade. A student may repeat a course once that they have previously audited for credit or converted to pass/fail.

Talia Bar asks a clarifying question regarding how course withdrawals would factor into this new language. Mary Bernstein states they would be categorized differently and remain the same.

A motion to approve this change is made by Mary Anne Amalaradjou. The motion is seconded by Thomas Craemer. The motion is passed with a majority approval by the Graduate Faculty Council.

d. Vote on Proposed Bylaws revision Re. Retaking A Course Converted to Pass/Fail
i. **Current by-laws language (Section VI.D.):**

"Pass/Fail: With permission of their major advisor, graduate students are permitted to convert any course, undergraduate or graduate, to a Pass/Fail basis. However, a course that has been converted to a Pass/Fail (or any subsequent retake of that course) cannot be used to meet the requirements for a graduate degree or certificate and cannot be included on a student's final Plan of Study. For graduate students converting a course to Pass/Fail, a passing grade is defined as a grade of C- or higher."

ii. **Proposed change in by-laws language (Section VI.D.):**

"Pass/Fail: With permission of their major advisor, graduate students are permitted to convert any course, undergraduate or

graduate, to a Pass/Fail basis. However, a course that has been converted to a Pass/Fail (or any subsequent retake of that course) cannot be used to meet the requirements for a graduate degree or certificate and cannot be included on a student's final Plan of Study. For graduate students converting a course to Pass/Fail, a passing grade is defined as a grade of C- or higher."

iii. Proposed new (clean) by-laws language (Section VI.D.):

"Pass/Fail: With permission of their major advisor, graduate students are permitted to convert any course, undergraduate or graduate, to a Pass/Fail basis. However, a course that has been converted to a Pass/Fail cannot be used to meet the requirements for a graduate degree or certificate and cannot be included on a student's final Plan of Study. For graduate students converting a course to Pass/Fail, a passing grade is defined as a grade of C- or higher."

A motion to approve this change is made by Mary Anne Amalaradjou. The motion is seconded by Michael J. O'Neill. The motion is passed with a majority approval by the Graduate Faculty Council.

4. Report from the Graduate Student Senate.
 - a. Gianna Raimondi asks for clarification on behalf of the Graduate Student Senate regarding Sixth-Year Certificate. Dean Holsinger explains there are various certificates with differing amounts of credits to complete each one, which is why new by-law language was introduced to provide clarity. Sixth-certificates are post-M.A. degrees and typically require 30 credits which makes them similar to an M.A. degree.
 - b. Additionally, there is no update from the GSS.
5. Announcements
 - a. A reminder that nominations for the Edward C. Marth Award close on Monday, November 21st, 2022.
 - b. Another reminder that on December 1st, 2022, there will be an open University forum regarding the recent Supreme Court case that may directly impact admissions in the future.
6. A motion to adjourn the meeting is made by Archana Sanjay. The motion is seconded by D. Betsy McCoach. The Graduate Faculty Council meeting is adjourned at 3:36 pm.