



Graduate Faculty Council (GFC) Meeting Agenda  
3:00 to 5:00 – Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Virtual meeting via WebEx

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Date: 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2023, 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, David Atkin, Fakhreddin Azimi, Talia Bar, Iddo Ben-Ari, Mary Bernstein (*Ex-Officio*), Christopher Blesso, Deborah Bolnick, Karen Bresciano (*Ex-Officio*), Preston Britner, Kelly Burke, Yongku Cho, Jack Corcoran (*Ex-Officio, Recording Secretary*), Kirstie Cope-Ferrar, Thomas Craemer, Hannah Dostal, Valerie Duffy, David Embrick, Nathan Fiala, Victoria Ford Smith, Alexandra Freidus, Neal Glaviano, David Gregorio, Travis Grossner, Louis Hanzlik, Thomas Hayes, Ashley Helton, Kent Holsinger (*Ex-Officio*), Magdalena Kaufmann, Heejoo Kim, Todd Kravet, Barbara Kream (*Ex-Officio*), Etan Markus, D. Betsy McCoach, Julian Norato, William Ouimet, Dan Pejril, Gianna Raimondi (*Ex-Officio*), Diana Rios, Chadwick Rittenhouse, Alexander Russell, Archana Sanjay, Leslie Shor (*Ex-Officio*), Helena Silva, Nathaniel Trumbull, Randall Walikonis, Andrew Wiemer, Alexander Woodward, Ping Zhang, Yuping Zhang

Absent: Marina Astitha, Heather Battaly, Zeljko Boskovic, Moustapha Diaby, Niloy Dutta, Monty Escabi, Meg Feely, Julia Kuzovkina, Jacqueline Loss, Elizabeth Mayerson, Michael J. O'Neill, Eugene Pinkhassik, Guillermo Risatti, Kurt Schwenk, Prabhakar Singh, Tammie Spaulding, Aditya Tadinada, Judith Thorpe, Penny Vlahos, Suzanne Wilson, Xinyu Zhao

Guests: Khaled Axel Djebbari, Stuart Duncan, Kristina Stevens

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1. The meeting is called to order at 3:05 pm.
2. Presented for voting: Approval of the Minutes from the March 22, 2023, meeting.

- a. The minutes are approved with a majority vote by the Graduate Faculty Council.
3. Report from Graduate Student Senate
  - a. Gianna Raimondi attended her last meeting as the GSS Parliamentarian, and introduced her successor, Khaled “Axel” Djebbari.
  - b. Raimondi reported some feedback from the GSS on the “Graduate Student Mentoring: A Mentor’s Guide.” After proposing the document, the senate reacted with much positivity, and voiced that they would feel protected by the implementation of this documentation. More specifically, Raimondi collected some direct language additions from a few members of the senate who wanted their voices heard, and Dean Holsinger plans to adjust the guide based on their feedback.
4. Old Business:
  - a. Vote to Endorse “Graduate Student Mentoring: A Mentor’s Guide”
    - i. Dean Holsinger, Associate Dean Bernstein, and Mary Anne Amalaradjou re-emphasized for the council that this will be a living documentation that will constantly be updated to fit the needs and accommodations of the student body.
    - ii. Talia Bar makes a motion to approve the document as it currently stands, with the notion that further edits will continue to be made in the future. This is seconded by Preston Britner, and the document is approved by the Graduate Faculty Council with a majority vote.
5. **Resolution:** The Graduate School shall award the degrees of Master of Arts, Master of Business Administration, Master of Dental Science, Master of Engineering, Master of Fine Arts, Master of Music, Master of Professional Studies, Master of Public Administration, Master of Public Policy, Master of Public Health, Master of Science, Master of Social Work, Doctor of Audiology, Doctor of Education, Doctor of Musical Arts, Doctor of Nursing Practice, Doctor of Physical Therapy, and Doctor of Philosophy to those candidates whom The Graduate School has certified have completed all degree requirements for conferral periods ending in August 2022, December 2022, and May 2023.
  - a. The Graduate Faculty Council voted to approve the Resolution unanimously.
6. Announcements & Information
  - a. Diversity Fee Waivers: Stuart Duncan
    - i. Stuart Duncan from The Graduate School announced that all departments/programs will be eligible to apply for diversity-based fee waivers. They will be available from August 2023 to March 2024, and will be granted on a first-come, first-serve basis. If approved by The Dean of The Graduate School (under advisement from The Director of Programming and Diversity Recruitment), a limited number of “time-limited” fee waivers will be distributed to each successful application.
  - b. Kognito: Kristina Stevens
    - i. Kristina Stevens from Student Health and Wellness introduced a new software titled Kognito, which is a virtual platform designed to help train faculty, staff, and students on mental health education. Using a virtual coach and real-life scenarios, the training will help the user understand the best choices to make during times of mental health struggles. Used in

over 400 institutions nationally, this program will help support the challenging issues faced by the student body during their academic careers and educate faculty and staff on how to appropriately manage times of mental health crisis.

- c. Executive Committee Nominations
    - i. In an email to be sent in the coming days, Dean Holsinger will request new nominations for the Executive Committee. Following a collection of those nominations, an electronic vote will be held to select three new members for the next term.
7. The Graduate Faculty Council meeting adjourned at 4:09 pm.