



Graduate Faculty Council (GFC) Meeting Agenda  
3:00 pm to 5:00 pm – Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Virtual meeting via WebEx

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Date: 29<sup>th</sup> of November 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 (*Moderator*), Marina Astitha, David Atkin, Fakhreddin Azimi, Talia Bar, Mary Bernstein (*Ex-Officio, Associate Dean*), Christopher Blesso, Deborah Bolnick, Jack Corcoran (*Ex-Officio, Recording Secretary*), Thomas Craemer, Jose Cruz, Moustapha Diaby, Hannah Dostal, Victoria Ford Smith, Neal Glaviano, Robin Grenier, Travis Grosser, Miao Guo, Louis Hanzlik, Kent Holsinger (*Ex-Officio, Dean & Chair*), Michael Hren, Todd Kravet, Barbara Kream (*Ex-Officio, Associate Dean*), Jacqueline Loss, Anson Ma, William Ouimet, Jeremy Pais, Dan Pejril, Heather Read, Diana Rios, Chadwick Rittenhouse, Alexander Russell, Beth Russell, Reza Sheikhi, Helena Silva, Tammie Spaulding, Luyi Sun, Helen Swede, Penny Vlahos, Randall Walikonis, Andrew Wiemer, Alexander Woodward, Ping Zhang, Xinyu Zhao

Absent: Heather Battaly, Karen Bresciano (*Ex-Officio, Assistant Dean*), Vasilis Chousionis, Lauren Corso, Khaled “Axel” Djebbari (*GSS Representative*), Monty Escabi, Meg Feely, Nathan Fiala, Magdalena Kaufmann, Julia Kuzovkina, Elizabeth Mayerson, Betsy McCoach, Michael O’Neill, Eugene Pinkhassik, Guillermo Risatti, Archana Sanjay, Kurt Schwenk, Prabhakar Singh, Aditya Tadinada, Judith Thorpe, Carlos Trallero, Nathaniel Trumbull, Yuping Zhang

Guests: Betsy Pittman, Leslie Shor

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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 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, meeting.

- a. A motion to approve was made by Mary Anne Amalaradjou and seconded by Neal Glaviano. The minutes were approved unanimously by the Graduate Faculty Council.
3. ProQuest & Graduate Students, Betsy Pittman, University Archivist
    - a. Betsy Pittman visited the GFC to discuss the library's transition to the CT Digital Archives, and how that will affect the publication of dissertations and master's theses. The library believes that signing a new contract with ProQuest would be the best way to ensure this content is accessible to the university community.
    - b. During discussion of embargoes, both Pittman and Dean Holsinger confirm that embargoes will still be honored.
    - c. Alexander Russell asked if the content will be placed behind a paywall once uploaded. Pittman confirmed that there would only be a paywall for those not associated with a university wanting to access the content.
    - d. Talia Bar questioned if there are any other benefits to this switch aside from a faster downloading speed of this intellectual content. Pittman expanded that this new process would alleviate the burdens on The Graduate School and the Library to facilitate the digitization of these materials.
    - e. A few members of the GFC asked if there was a way for people to opt-out of this process, or revoke content in the future. Pittman stated that there wouldn't be a way to take back the rights to the content in the future after they have already been passed over.
    - f. A vote is held for two motions, stating that the council approves the switch to ProQuest, making this long history of dissertations available via multiple avenues in which the intellectual content can be accessed, and if the council approves of including master's theses by making them available as well. The Graduate Faculty Council approved both motions with a majority vote.
  4. Announcements
    - a. Dean Holsinger informs the council that the by-laws of The Graduate School allow for two GSS representatives, so there may be an additional member added in the Spring.
  5. The Graduate Faculty Council meeting adjourned at 3:46 pm. The next GFC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 3:00 pm.