



Graduate Faculty Council (GFC) Meeting Agenda  
3:00 pm to 5:00 pm – Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Virtual meeting via WebEx

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Date: 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2024, 3:00 pm-5:00 pm

Location: Virtual meeting via WebEx

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

Attendees: David Atkins, Talia Bar, Mary Bernstein (*Ex-Officio, Associate Dean*), Deborah Bolnick, Kathleen Cienkowski, Kirstie Cope-Ferrar, Jack Corcoran (*Ex-Officio, Recording Secretary*), Thomas Craemer, Jose Cruz, Meg Feely, Victoria Ford Smith, Neal Glaviano, David Gregorio, Thomas Hayes, Ashley Helton, Kent Holsinger (*Ex-Officio, Dean & Chair*), Magdalena Kaufmann, Heejoo Kim, Todd Kravet, Barbara Kream (*Ex-Officio, Associate Dean*), Julia Kuzovkina, Yangchao Luo, Anson Ma, Betsy McCoach, Julian Norato, Jeremy Pais, Heather Read, Diana Rios, Chadwick Rittenhouse, Beth Russell, Kurt Schwenk, Leslie Shor (*Ex-Officio*), Helena Silva, Ron Squibbs, Helen Swede, Nathaniel Trumbull, Penny Vlahos, Randall Walikonis, Andrew Wiemer, Alexander Woodward, Ping Zhang

Absent: Mary Anne Amalaradjou (*Moderator*), Marina Astitha, Heather Battaly, Karen Bresciano (*Ex-Officio, Assistant Dean*), Vasilis Chousionis, Lauren Corso, Khaled “Axel” Djebbari (*GSS Representative*), Hannah Dostal, Monty Escabi, Nathan Fiala, Preston Green, Travis Grosser, Michael Hren, Jacqueline Loss, Elizabeth Mayerson, Michael O’Neill, William Ouimet, Eugene Pinkhassik, Guillermo Risatti, Alexander Russell, Archana Sanjay, Prabhakar Singh, Luyi Sun, Aditya Tadinada, Judith Thorpe, Carlos Trallero, Janet Watson, Yuping Zhang, Xinyu Zhao

Guests: *None*

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1. The meeting is called to order at 3:02 pm.
2. Presented for Voting: Approval of the Minutes from the January 24, 2024, meeting.

- a. The minutes were approved unanimously by the Graduate Faculty Council.
3. Report from the Graduate Student Senate
    - a. In the absence of their representative, Dean Holsinger provided a brief update on the Graduate Student Senate. Dean Holsinger stated that the senate is working on getting business regularized after some leadership turnover, and new elections will be held at their next meeting for new Executive Board members.
  4. Old Business
    - a. Proposed Bylaws Revision Re. Admissions
      - i. **Current by-laws language (Section III.E.c.):**

Except in exceptional circumstances, to be considered for admission to a degree or certificate program, prior coursework must be of at least the following quality:

        - A cumulative GPA for their most recent degree of 3.0 or higher for the entire degree, or
        - If the most recent degree is an undergraduate degree or the student has not yet completed their undergraduate degree:
          - A GPA of 3.0 or higher for the entire two most recent years of full-time undergraduate coursework, or
          - A GPA of 3.5 or higher for the entire most recent year of full-time undergraduate coursework, or
        - If a student has taken the equivalent of at least one semester of full-time study (9 credits or more) following the completion of the most recent undergraduate or graduate degree, a GPA of 3.0 or higher for all of their post-degree coursework.
      - ii. **Proposed by-laws language (Section III.E.c.):**

Except in exceptional circumstances, to be considered for admission to a degree or certificate program, prior coursework must be of at least the following quality:

        - A cumulative GPA for ~~their most recent~~ *any prior* degree *at the baccalaureate level or higher* of 3.0 or higher for the entire degree, or
        - If the most recent degree is an undergraduate degree or the student has not yet completed their undergraduate degree:
          - A GPA of 3.0 or higher for the entire two most recent years of full-time undergraduate coursework, or
          - A GPA of 3.5 or higher for the entire most recent year of full-time undergraduate coursework, or
        - If a student has taken the equivalent of at least one semester of full-time study (9 credits or more) following the completion of the most recent undergraduate or graduate degree, a GPA of 3.0 or higher for all of their post-degree coursework.

iii. **Clean by-laws language (Section III.E.c.):**

Except in exceptional circumstances, to be considered for admission to a degree or certificate program, prior coursework must be of at least the following quality:

- A cumulative GPA for any prior degree at the baccalaureate level or higher of 3.0 or higher for the entire degree, or
- If the most recent degree is an undergraduate degree or the student has not yet completed their undergraduate degree:
  - A GPA of 3.0 or higher for the entire two most recent years of full-time undergraduate coursework, or
  - A GPA of 3.5 or higher for the entire most recent year of full-time undergraduate coursework, or
- If a student has taken the equivalent of at least one semester of full-time study (9 credits or more) following the completion of the most recent undergraduate or graduate degree, a GPA of 3.0 or higher for all of their post-degree coursework.

A motion to approve was made by Thomas Craemer and seconded by Heather Read. The Graduate Faculty Council voted to approve this motion with a majority vote.

5. Discussion: Mentorship Training

- a. Dean Holsinger provided an update on the previous meeting's discussion regarding requiring mentorship training for all incoming members of the graduate faculty. After four more people were recently certified to facilitate these trainings, Dean Holsinger anticipates launching this requirement starting in the Fall of 2024.

6. The Graduate Faculty Council meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm. The next GFC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 3:00 pm.