



## GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

February 25, 2013

The Graduate Council met on Monday, February 25, 2013 at 2:00 P.M. in room 311 of the Byrnes Building.

**Graduate Council members present:** Dr. Joseph Quattro, Chair; Drs. Subra Bulusu, Erik Drasgow, Edward Gatzke, J. Daniel Jenkins, Michael Hodgson, Kartik Kalaignanam, DeAnne Messias, Murray Mitchell, Lauren Sklaroff, Paul Solomon, Tracey Weldon-Stewart, Adela Vraciu, Terrance Weik; John Knox, GSA

**Graduate Council members excused:** Drs. Wayne Carver, David Darmofal, Minuette Floyd, Stacy Fritz, Ercan Turk and Lee Walker

**Graduate School Representatives:** Dr. Jessica Elfenbein, Dale Moore and Valarie Trapp

**Provost Office Representative:** Dr. Kristia Finnigan

**NOTE:** *These minutes will become final on March 24, 2013, if not challenged.*

1. **Call to Order and Approval of Agenda** (Joseph Quattro).
2. **Approval of Minutes** ([January 28, 2013 Minutes](http://app.gradschool.sc.edu/gradcouncil/minutes.asp)). The minutes were reviewed electronically and approved by the Council. Minutes are on file at The Graduate School website at: <http://app.gradschool.sc.edu/gradcouncil/minutes.asp>
3. **Report of the Chair** (Joseph Quattro)  
  
No Report
4. **Report of the Dean of The Graduate School** (Lacy Ford is excused)  
  
Dr. Elfenbein announced USC was awarded the 2013 Award of Excellence in Graduate Admissions by the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools for its flagship recruiting program, the Presidential Fellowship.  
  
Dr. Elfenbein announced the Graduate Directors Program will be held on Friday, April 5th, from 11a.m. to 1p.m. The program includes a light lunch.  
  
Dr. Elfenbein shared information regarding Graduate Student Day, April 12, 2013, providing flyers for council members to post in their departments; and, information regarding the new element of a Three Minute Dissertation Contest.
5. **Report of the Associate Dean / Secretary of the Graduate Council**

(Murray Mitchell)

Dr. Mitchell reported the Academic Policies and Procedures request to further research information regarding Military tuition. There is an undergraduate resident tuition rate of \$5044.00 per semester; the active duty military tuition is \$2946.00. This research is ongoing with respect to a graduate equivalent military tuition rate. At present, active military qualify for the "in state" rate. Efforts are underway for extending the same opportunity to spouse and family members. We are also exploring the potential for an active military rate at the graduate level.

Dr. Mitchell addressed Graduate Assistant tuition supplements. Students are interested in what, if any, tuition supplement they will receive upon acceptance into a graduate program. Information about the supplement is not provided in the "congratulatory" letter they receive when accepted into a graduate program. Communication regarding tuition supplements and assistantships come directly from departments. Students who are hired as graduate assistants qualify for a health insurance abatement. There are some changes to how tuition payments can be made as a result of the shift to Banner and One Carolina. More information will be provided as it becomes available from the Office of Fellowships and Scholarships. The Graduate School does not create rules governing how tuition supplements are paid—we will do our best to help answer related questions as the information becomes available to us.

Dr. Mitchell broached problems that may arise regarding graduation dates (i.e.: coding for instate tuition) informing council that, although The Graduate School has no authority, the issue is being addressed by Dennis Pruitt and discovered by "others" as we go. He advised that the Financial Aid and Scholars Programs are offering two informational sessions. The first session is Tuesday, March 12th, at 9:3a in 315 RHUU; and, the second is Thursday, March 21st, at 2p in 315 RHUU. Those who are processing paperwork for tuition supplements have received memo's regarding this information. He encouraged council members and/or their representatives to make the effort to be at one or both of the meetings so their concerns will be heard, and their questions answered.

Dr. Mitchell announced the Electronic Thesis and Dissertation formatting assistance has a calendar (below). Information has been sent to various departments for doctoral and masters students, so they will have first opportunity to address questions to a Graduate School Program Coordinator. The session will be opened to others, as well.

Dr. Mitchell informed council that Zac Lukemire has developed ETD resources, including templates, for students to download so they can better focus on the content of their work rather than the formatting of the document. The Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Formatting Workshops Calendar is provided below:

## University of South Carolina

### Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Formatting Workshops Calendar

Students who intend to graduate in 2013 are strongly encouraged to attend the Thesis and Dissertation Formatting Workshops offered by The Graduate School during the Spring 2013 semester. Please find your degree and department from the list below to learn when and where a workshop will be open to you. In order to attend, you will need to register by visiting the [Thomas Cooper Library Workshops page](#) and selecting the appropriate date and time from the calendar. Space is limited, and students will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis. If you have any questions, please email Zach Lukemire at [lukemire@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:lukemire@mailbox.sc.edu).

For: Master's students in Nursing, Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Earth & Environmental Resource Management, Marine Science, Math, Physics, and Statistics.  
Date: Thursday, February 21, 2013.  
Time: 11:00 AM.  
Location: Thomas Cooper Library, Room 412.

For: Doctoral students in Nursing, Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Earth & Environmental Resource Management, Marine Science, Math, Physics, and Statistics.  
Date: Thursday, February 21, 2013.  
Time: 1:00 PM.  
Location: Thomas Cooper Library, Level 1 Multimedia classroom.

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For: Master's students in Anthropology, Comparative Literature, Criminology and Criminal Justice, French, Geography, German, Historical Archaeology & Cultural Resources Management, History, International Studies, Linguistics, Museum Management, Philosophy, Political Science, Public Administration, Public History, Spanish, Theatre, and Visual Anthropology.  
Date:  
Time:  
Location:

For: Doctoral students in Anthropology, Comparative Literature, Criminology and Criminal Justice, French, Geography, German, Historical Archaeology & Cultural Resources Management, History, International Studies, Linguistics, Museum Management, Philosophy, Political Science, Public Administration, Public History, Spanish, Theatre, and Visual Anthropology.  
Date:  
Time:  
Location:

For: Master's students in Exercise Science, Environmental Science, Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Health Promotion, Education, & Behavior.  
Date: Thursday, February 28, 2013.  
Time: 10:00 AM.  
Location: Thomas Cooper Library, Room 412.

For: Doctoral students in Communication Sciences & Disorders, Exercise Science, Health Services Policy & Management, Environmental Science, Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Health Promotion, Education, & Behavior.  
Date: Thursday, February 28, 2013.  
Time: 11:45 AM.  
Location: Thomas Cooper Library, Room 412.

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For: Master's students in Economics and Journalism.  
Date: Wednesday, March 6, 2013.  
Time: 2:00 PM.  
Location: Thomas Cooper Library, Room 412.

For: Doctoral students in Business, Economics, Library & Information Science, and Mass Communications.  
Date: Wednesday, March 6, 2013.  
Time: 12:00 PM.  
Location: Thomas Cooper Library, Room 412.

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For: Master's students in Art Education, Art History, Art Studio, Media Arts, English, Creative Writing, Clinical Community Psychology, Experimental Psychology, School Psychology, and Sociology.  
Date: Thursday, March 7, 2013.

Time: 11:00 AM.  
Location: Thomas Cooper Library, Level 1 Multimedia classroom.

For: Doctoral students in Art Education, Art History, Art Studio, Media Arts, English, Creative Writing, Clinical Community Psychology, Experimental Psychology, School Psychology, and Sociology.

Date: Thursday, March 7, 2013.

Time: 1:00 PM.

Location: Thomas Cooper Library, Level 3 Multimedia classroom.

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For: Master's students in Education.

Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2013.

Time: 1:00 PM.

Location: Thomas Cooper Library, Level 3 Multimedia classroom.

For: Doctoral students in Education.

Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2013.

Time: 3:00 PM.

Location: Thomas Cooper Library, Room 412.

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For: Master's students in the School of Music, School of Medicine, and College of Social Work.

Date: Thursday, March 21, 2013.

Time: 11:00 AM.

Location: Thomas Cooper Library, Level 3 Multimedia classroom.

For: Doctoral students in the School of Music, School of Medicine, and College of Social Work.

Date: Thursday, March 21, 2013.

Time: 12:45 PM.

Location: Thomas Cooper Library, Room 412.

6. **Report of the Graduate Student Association Representative** (John Knox)

No Report

7. **Report of the Academic Policy and Practices Committee** (Paul Solomon)

No Report

8. **Report of the Committee on 500/600 Level Courses, Distance Education and Special Courses** (Murray Mitchell)

**Distance Education Delivery and Special Topics Course**

[SLIS J 797 'Tweens, Teens and Technology](#) (3)

**New Course Proposal and Distance Education Delivery**

[STAT 600](#)

**Schedule Exception Request, Off-Campus Delivery Approval and Special Topics Course Approval**

[JOUR 790 E Mgt Funct Engr Comm](#) (3)

Dr. Mitchell identified that some minor revisions to the JOUR 790 E syllabus were being addressed and that he was working with Professor Grant, to have this course approved in time for delivery to a semester beginning March 19, 2013.

9. **Fellowships and Scholarships Committee** (Wayne Carver is excused)

Dr. Elfenbein announced the last deadline, round three, for Presidential Fellowships and Scholarships is Friday, March 1st, 2013. She added March 1st is also the deadline for Trustee Fellowships which are not recurring and do not require participation in seminars but which do have specific qualifications. She encouraged council members to take a look at these recruiting fellowships for potential students.

Dr. Elfenbein announced the new hire of Wright Culpepper as Assistant Director of Recruitment, Data and Special Events. She added that Friday, March 1st, is the deadline for students to apply for participation in Graduate Student Day. She asked that council members take the time to see the 3MT on line.

Please, find the link to the 2011 3MT People's Choice Award winner below.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LeKuX4LwIIQ>

Dr. Elfenbein shared that The Graduate School will introduce a new Graduate Student Day logo designed by the USC student winner of the T-Shirt Design Contest.

10. **Report of the Science, Math, and Related Professional Program Committee**  
(Edward Gatzke)

**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

***College of Engineering and Computing***

**New Course Proposal/Distance Education Delivery      APPROVED**  
**[EMCH 770 Predictive Modeling: Combining Experiments with Computations](#) (3)**  
Experimental and computational uncertainties; combining experiments with computations to obtain "best-estimate" results with reduced uncertainties; predictive modeling

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**Discussion regarding a proposal from Nursing to remove the GRE for admission decisions:**

Discussion began concerning the long standing requirement of the GRE for admissions. Dale Moore discussed the potential of GRE bias and expressed his concerns about removing GRE requirements from admissions requirements based only on a Bulletin change. He shared that former dean Gordon Smith challenged the wisdom of publishing minimum admissions criteria and recommended publishing admissions profiles.

Dr. Elfenbein suggested that she query members of the Council of Graduate Schools regarding comparable policies regarding the use of test scores for admission decisions before any changes be considered.

Mr. Moore added the only Graduate School admissions criteria published in the bulletin is TOEFL. Mr. Moore identified that there is no graduate school policy that says you must have an admissions test.

Dr. Quattro asked if students without the qualifying tests would be eligible for scholarships and fellowships which require GRE scores. The answer is "no".

Mr. Moore acknowledged that there are certainly exceptions of accepting GRE, GMAT or TOEFFL; but, generally speaking, doctoral programs rarely grant GRE exceptions.

Dr. Mitchell accessed the Graduate Admissions webpage, <http://www.sc.edu/applytousc/>, for the council members.

Mr. Moore voiced concerns about making Bulletin decisions about admissions criteria without more information and discussion; especially, regarding PhD programs.

Dr. Burgess pointed out that the proposal from Nursing is not for the PhD program; but, the DNP program. She stressed that the applicants bring portfolios showing their certifications, license levels and clinical expertise which, in combination, is a stronger indicator of the success their department will have with a particular student.

Dr. Gatzke asked Drs. Culley and Burgess to explain their motivation for dropping the GRE.

Dr. Culley responded that her department began extensive literature research two years ago and there is little evidence of a correlation between a student's success in a program and his/her GRE scores. In order to pick the best students, and the evidence shows the GRE is not a valuable tool of judging potential success in the DNP program, they would conclude that the GRE should be dropped from their criteria. They have discovered in their research that a stronger predictor is the GPA, undergraduate and graduate.

Dr. Culley stated they have added a first criterion as GPA, and a second criterion based on LOR, with weight added to the recommender; and, a written sample as the third criterion.

Dr. Quattro asked if they have been doing this for two years.

Dr. Burgess responded, no. The information on the initial sentence is incorrect in the Justification form; but, they have been working towards approval on this process for the past two years.

Dr. Weldon-Stewart questioned, why, when the requested changes affect admissions criteria, they are requesting approval of a Bulletin Change. She asked for clarification.

Dr. Gatzke explained that Nursing has their criteria posted in their bulletin.

Dr. Mitchell highlighted the questionable "two year" statement on the projection screen in the tracking charts Justification form for council members to address—this was the misstatement to which Dr. Burgess noted incorrect phrasing. Instead, the admissions committee for the DNP program has been working to develop their criteria for admissions for the past two years.

Dr. Quattro asked for clarification regarding the statement that the GRE is a "strong predictor in the PhD program but not in the other (DNP) program".

Dr. Culley responded that the research does not correlate well, even for the PhD program. She offered to provide the evidence, in time, to the Graduate Council for future reference. She stressed that the clinical components outweigh a GRE score in "weeding out" student applications.

Mr. Moore added that he is not suggesting admissions criteria "do away" with the GRE and cautioned the council about approving the elimination of an important admission criteria based on a simple Bulletin Change.

Dr. Mitchell suggested that the Justification form reflect the information shared by Drs. Culley and Burgess with council members for future admissions criteria proposals.

The Graduate Council voted and approved the DNP Bulletin Change below.

***College of Nursing***

**Bulletin Change**

**APPROVED**

**FROM:** [Doctor of Nursing Practice](#) (33)

Admission requirements for students with a B.S.N. or a master's degree in nursing:

1. A B.S.N. or master's degree in nursing from a program that is nationally accredited;
2. General GRE verbal and quantitative scores (The mean GRE score for recently admitted students was 450 verbal and 541 quantitative.);
3. Current authorization to practice as SC Registered Nurse or possession of an unencumbered license in the state in which clinical practice will occur;
4. Transcripts of all previous college studies (The mean GPA for recently admitted students was 3.57.);
5. Completed application to The Graduate School with the College of Nursing supplement;
6. Three references written by doctorally prepared nurses who are able to evaluate the academic potential of the candidate;
7. An admission interview;
8. Evidence of writing competence, which will be evaluated through the candidate's prepared written statement submitted with the application, as well as by written response to an essay question given during the admissions interview;
9. Applicants with a master's degree in nursing must be certified as an advanced practice nurse or hold a master's degree in nursing administration;
10. Applicants with a master's degree in nursing must present a professional portfolio of knowledge, skills, and expertise acquired through education and experience to include documentation of RN licensure or unencumbered license in the state in which clinical practice will occur, documentation of advance practice certification, and an official letter from master's program documenting number of clinical hours completed.

**TO:** [Doctor of Nursing Practice](#) (33)

Admission requirements for students with a B.S.N. or a master's degree in nursing:

1. A B.S.N. or master's degree in nursing from a program that is nationally accredited;

2. Current authorization to practice as a SC Registered Nurse or possession of an unencumbered license in the state in which clinical practice will occur;
3. Transcripts of all previous college studies. Grade point average criteria (50% weighted). (The mean GPA for recently admitted students was 3.57);
4. Completed application to The Graduate School with the College of Nursing supplement;
6. An admission interview with writing sample (30% weighted);
5. Three references written by doctorally prepared nurses who are able to evaluate the academic potential of the candidate; Letters of reference (20% weighted);
7. Evidence of writing competence, which will be evaluated through the candidate's prepared written statement submitted with the application, as well as by written response to an essay question given during the admissions interview.
8. Applicants with a master's degree in nursing must be certified as an advanced practice nurse or hold a master's degree in nursing administration;
9. Applicants with a master's degree in nursing must present a professional portfolio of knowledge, skills, and expertise acquired through education and experience to include documentation of RN licensure or unencumbered license in the state in which clinical practice will occur, documentation of advance practice certification, and an official letter from master's program documenting number of clinical hours completed.

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**Course Change Proposal** **APPROVED**  
Changes to course title and description

**FROM:** [PHYS 703 Electromagnetic Theory I](#) (3)  
Development of Maxwell's equations; boundary value problems; radiation theory.

**TO:** PHYS 703 Classical Field Theory I (3)  
Development of classical fields; Maxwell's equations; boundary value problems; radiation theory.

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**Bulletin Change** **APPROVED**  
Change course title

**FROM:** [PHYS 704 Electromagnetic Theory II](#) (3)

**TO:** PHYS 704 Classical Field Theory II (3)

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**Course Change Proposal** **APPROVED**

Changes to course title and prerequisites/corequisites

**FROM:** [PHYS 708 General Relativity](#) (3)

**TO:** PHYS 708 General Relativity and Cosmology (3)

Prerequisites/Corequisites: PHYS 701, PHYS 704

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**Course Change Proposal**

**APPROVED**

Changes to course title, description and prerequisites/corequisites

**FROM:** [PHYS 713 Advanced Quantum Theory I](#) (3)

Non-relativistic quantum electrodynamics. Relativistic wave equations. Propagator theory. Field theory of relativistic quantum electrodynamics.

**TO:** PHYS 713 Advanced Quantum Theory (3)

Second Quantization. Relativistic formulations of quantum mechanics.

Prerequisite: PHYS 712

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**Course Change Proposal**

**APPROVED**

Changes to course title, description and prerequisites/corequisites

**FROM:** [PHYS 714 Advanced Quantum Theory II](#) (3)

A continuation of PHYS 713

**TO:** PHYS 714 Quantum Field Theory (3)

Theory of quantized fields. Introduction to renormalization. A continuation of PHYS 713

Prerequisite: PHYS 713

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**New Course Proposal**

**APPROVED**

[PHYS 715 Many-Body Quantum Theory](#) (3)

Effective field theory, particle-hole, quasiparticles.

Prerequisite/Corequisite: PHYS 713

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**Course Change Proposal**

**APPROVED**

Delete Course

**FROM:** [PHYS 717 Nuclear Theory I](#) (3)

**TO:** Delete course

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**Course Change Proposal**

**APPROVED**

Changes to course title, description, and prerequisites/corequisites

**FROM:** [PHYS 721 Nuclear Physics](#) (3)

Nuclear physics, mainly from the experimental standpoint.

**TO:** PHYS 721 Subatomic Physics (3)

Baryons and mesons, quarks and leptons; symmetries; electromagnetic and weak interactions, QCD, and the standard model; experimental tools in subatomic physics.

Prerequisite: PHYS 511 or equivalent

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**New Course Proposal**

**APPROVED**

[PHYS 722 Advanced Nuclear Particles](#) (3)

Nuclear and hadronic structures and reactions.

Prerequisites/Corequisites: PHYS 721

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**Course Change Proposal**

**APPROVED**

Changes to course title, description and prerequisites/corequisites

**FROM:** [PHYS 723 Elementary Particles I](#) (3)

Introduction to elementary particles. The quark model. Symmetry principles and conservation laws. Calculation of cross sections and decay rates using Feynman rules. Accelerators, particle detectors, and experiments. Electromagnetic cross sections.

Corequisite: 712 Prerequisites: PHYS 701, 703, 711

**TO:** PHYS 723 Advanced Particle Physics (3)

Introduction to gauge theories; particle physics and experiments.

Prerequisite: PHYS 721

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**Course Change Proposal**

**APPROVED**

Delete Course

**FROM:** [PHYS 724 Elementary Particles II](#) (3)

**TO:** N/A

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**Course Change Proposal**

**APPROVED**

Changes to course title, description, and prerequisites/corequisites

**FROM:** [PHYS 725 Solid State Physics](#) (3)

The crystalline state of matter and its main characteristics. Electric and magnetic properties of metals, semiconductors, and insulators.

**TO:** PHYS 725 Condensed Matter Physics (3)

The crystalline state of matter and its main characteristics. Electromagnetic and thermal properties of metals, semiconductors, and insulators.

Prerequisite: PHYS 512 or equivalent

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**Course Change Proposal**

**APPROVED**

Changes to the course title, description, and prerequisites/corequisites.

**FROM:** [PHYS 726 Superconductivity](#) (3)

Theory and description of conventional and high temperature superconductors and their properties.

**TO:** PHYS 726 Advanced Condensed Matter Physics (3)

Advanced topics in Solid State Physics, superconductivity, Quantum Hall Effect, and Anderson Localization

Prerequisite: PHYS 725

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**Course Change Proposal**

**APPROVED**

Delete Course

**FROM:** [PHYS 728 SOLID STATE THEORY](#) (3)

**TO:** N/A

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**11. Report of the Humanities, Social Sciences, Education, and Related Professional Programs Committee** (J. Daniel Jenkins)

Dr. Jenkins announced Dr. Weldon-Stewart as the new Humanities Committee Chair.

**12. Report of the Petitions and Appeals Committee** (Erik Drasgow)

No Report

**13. Other Committee Reports**

Mr. Moore readdressed the GRE issue regarding responsibility of regulations.

Dr. Mitchell stated there would be very few, if any, of those kinds of regulations that would appear on the website rather than the graduate studies bulletin.

Mr. Moore stated the old bulletin references application requirements but does not reference admissions requirements unless a program/degree requires them specifically. He feels there should be consistent information within the bulletin and questions who,

within the graduate school, should be called upon to monitor the bulletin and "clean it up". Also, he questions, "Why can't a department waive a requirement without authorization from The Graduate School?"

Dr. Quattro acknowledged that the issue is "a slippery slope" to which all agreed.

**14. Old Business**

Dr. Weldon-Stewart asked if council should follow up with the actions of criteria changes in Bulletin Change forms. Further discussion was tabled for future deliberation.

**15. New Business**

None

**16. Good of the Order**

**17. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

**Murray Mitchell, Secretary**

cc:

President Harris Pastides

Vice Provost & Dean of Graduate Studies Lacy Ford

Provost Michael Amiridis

Deans

Department Chairs

Graduate Directors

Aaron Marterer, University Registrar

Jodie Morris, Office of the Registrar

Andrew Graves, Office of the Registrar

Nancy Floyd, Office of Institutional Assessment and Compliance