



# The Graduate School

## UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

### GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

November 25, 2019

The Graduate Council met on Monday, November 25, 2019 at 2:00 P.M. on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Thomas Cooper Library in the Career Center.

Graduate Council members present: Dr. Jim Mensch, Vice Chair; Drs. Nate Bell, Matt Boylan, Bobby Brame, Rick Creswick, Robin DiPietro, Jean Ellis, Elise Ince, Songhua Xu, and Jennifer Mandelbaum, GSA Representative.

Graduate Council members absent: Drs. Suzanne Adlof, Ron Benner, Joanna Casey, Maks Chruszcz, Hippokratis Kiaris, Spencer Platt, Tom Regan, Sirivatch Shimpalee, and Nikki Wooten.

Graduate School Representatives: Dr. Cheryl Addy, Dr. Murray Mitchell (Secretary), Dr. Heather Brandt (Excused), Dale Moore (Excused), and Wanda Barr.

Provost Office Representatives: Dr. Tena Crews and Trena Houp

Guests: Dr. Stacy Fritz (PHYT), Dr. Kent Germany (History), and Dr. Bob Brookshire (IIT)

**NOTE: These minutes will become final on December 9, 2019 if not challenged.**

1. **Call to Order and Approval of Agenda** (Jim Mensch, Vice Chair for Tom Regan)  
The meeting was called to order at 2:05pm.
2. **Approval of the [Minutes from October 28, 2019](http://app.gradschool.sc.edu/gradcouncil/minutes.asp)**. Approved actions by Graduate Council become effective 30 days after posting. A copy is available on the Graduate School website at: <http://app.gradschool.sc.edu/gradcouncil/minutes.asp>
3. **Report of the Chair** (Jim Mensch for Tom Regan)  
No report.
4. **Report of the Dean of Graduate School** (Cheryl Addy)  
Dr. Addy continues to work on the revisions to ACAF 4.00 Graduate Assistantships and is putting the finishing touches to them before submitting for formal approval. HR has also developed a comprehensive policy on student hiring that will be clearly referenced (in review process). Key points (first three discussed at October meeting):

- Must be compliant with state and federal law (FLSA and FICA exemptions). A key issue is that graduate staff assistants are generally going to be non-exempt employees, which means they need to be hourly not salaried.
- Would like to address graduate student concerns about stipend and overall financial support. A key priority is to protect resident tuition and the health insurance subsidy for all GAs.
- We are trying to identify the most efficient process to hire students because of the timing of various steps (e.g., when must enrollment eligibility be verified).
- We will require a work agreement that specifies dates, work schedule expectation, responsibilities, and evaluation/feedback.
- We will expect all grievances related to GA appointments including terminations to follow the existing GAP procedures.
- We are recommending that students be able to request 1-3 weeks of leave without pay with protection for the GA position (6 weeks for parental leave). The leave must be for personal extenuating circumstances such as severe health challenge or death in the immediate family. We will include sufficient notification as the expectation for parental leave requests.

The Community Insights survey on which President Caslen requested our participation officially closed yesterday.

The Provost and VP for Diversity and Inclusion search application deadlines are December 31 and January 15, respectively; campus interviews likely to happen in early to mid-February.

The agenda for this meeting includes two proposals that are firsts for us. We have been developing a partnership with HBKU in Qatar to expand their academic presence in sports science. The proposals are to create joint degrees with Sport and Entertainment Management and with Exercise Science. For these joint degrees the curriculum proposed is identical to the campus programs, but the students will complete most of the work at Doha. The distinguishing factors for a joint degree are that the student must complete a minimum of one-third of the academic credit at each institution and that the diploma earned will include both institutions (not separate degrees from the separate institutions). She pointed this out because she wanted the members of the Council to realize the impact of what we are approving this time.

Dr. Addy met with President Caslen yesterday. The focus of that discussion was about graduate students and graduate education.

**5. Report of the Secretary of the Graduate Council (Murray Mitchell)**

Dr. Mitchell stated that in the past, thesis and dissertation defense announcements were broadcast on the Graduate School web site, through submissions in our Graduate Management System. Given changes to the new Web presence, we are no longer able to provide this support. We have asked graduate directors and program administrative assistants to post these important announcements on your program or department websites, to your listserv and social media outlets. If you will tag the Graduate School on your social media posts, we are happy to push the announcements even further. Please share this change to procedures with other faculty and graduate students in your program who may be impacted.

Consistent with the changing platform for information, we are working to develop better guidance and a template for Graduate Bulletin entries. There is currently a wide range of information presented, from

very little to a great deal. We hope to locate promising practices and work toward a more uniform presentation format. More as we learn it.

The Graduate Student Association is also seeking more insight into the potential to offer a more centralized “Graduate Student Orientation” for new students. We have reached out to programs to discover what is presently being done in the various colleges and programs, to better understand what is already in place, what is optional and what is mandatory, as well as the timing of these kinds of offerings.

There was discussion at a prior meeting with regard to the procedures for Special Topics Course proposals. This process is addressed in ACAF 2.03 which is currently being revised. When those revisions are final, and the policy is approved and posted, we will move to sending proposals for graduate special topics courses directly to the Registrar. Until then, we will continue with the current practice of proposals going first through the Graduate School.

Lastly, he asked that we go out of order to consider an item of New Business that was included with the agenda mailed out on Friday. Briefly, there is a contradiction in published policy and what is proposed is an action to re-align policy with desired practice. Specifically, to remove the GPA punishment associated with a grade of “U” in thesis preparation (usually 799), and dissertation preparation (usually 899).

**6. Report on Professional Development (Murray Mitchell for Heather Brandt)**  
No report.

**7. Report of the Graduate Student Association Representative (Jennifer Mandelbaum)**  
Jennifer gave an overview of the fall semester and future plans:

- Working to ensure that graduate student voices are heard and have better communication/outreach
- Had meetings with President Caslen and Dr. Addy to hear about their roles and to share challenges and opportunities
- Council of Academic Deans meeting – will follow up at end of semester/beginning of spring semester
  - E.g., how we can be involved with NSF Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship Program
- Meeting with Tom McNally (Dean of Libraries)
  - Digital resources and the career center with a focus for grad students
  - Enhancing the industry side of the career center rather than prep for academia alone
  - SHARPGrads program (a lot of enthusiasm for topics like data visualization, publishing)
  - We need to come to him with a proposal for data enhancement and other research needs of students
- Collect new info on mental health services
- Graduate student orientation
- How to move forward with stipend survey results

**8. Report of the Academic Policy and Practices Committee (Jim Mensch)**  
No report.

9. **Report of the 500/600 Level Courses, Distributed Learning and Special Topics Courses**  
(Murray Mitchell)

This report is presented to Council for informational purposes only; no action is necessary.

**500/600 Courses for November 2019 Grad Council**

(CCP = Course Change Proposal; NCP=New Course Proposal)

- ANTH 516** (4) Indonesian Culture Through Film (Delete Existing Course: Fall 2020)
- ARTE 535** (3) Children's Artistic and Aesthetic Development (Delete Existing Course: Fall 2020)
- ARTE 555** (3) Art Criticism (Delete Existing Course: Fall 2020)
- BIOL 588** (3) Genomic Data Science (New Course Proposal: Spring 2020)
- BIOL 599** (3) Chords and Codons [**RESTRICTED TO UNDERGRADUATES**] (Spring 2020)
- BIOL 599** (3) Experimental Design and Analysis (Spring 2020)
- BIOL 599** (3) Genomic Data Science (Spring 2020)
- BIOL 643L** (1) Advanced Microbiology Laboratory (New Course Proposal: Spring 2020)
- CHEM 590** (1) Introductory Glassblowing (Delete Existing Course: Fall 2020)
- CHEM 591** (2) Advanced Experimental Chemistry I (Delete Existing Course: Fall 2020)
- CHEM 592** (2) Advanced Experimental Chemistry II (Delete Existing Course: Fall 2020)
- CRJU 551** (3) Adolescent Mentoring (New Course Proposal: Spring 2020)
- CRJU 558** (3) Crime Over the Life Course (Course Change Proposal: Fall 2020)
- CRJU 575** (3) The Death Penalty (Carolina Core Modification: Fall 2020)
- CRJU 577** (3) Law and Criminal Justice Policy (Carolina Core Modification: Fall 2020)
- CSCE 585** (3) Machine Learning Systems (New Course Proposal: Spring 2020)
- ECIV 521** (3) Numerical Methods in Mechanics (Course Change Proposal: Fall 2020)
- ECIV 541** (3) Highway Design (Course Change Proposal: Fall 2020)
- ECON 514** (3) The Economics of Terrorism (Course Change Proposal: Fall 2020)
- ECON 555** (3) Game Theory in Economics (Course Change Proposal: Fall 2020)
- EDLP 517** (3) Law & Policy Studies in Education (New Course Proposal: Fall 2019)
- ENHS 592** (3) Oceans and Human Health: An Ecosystem and Public Health Perspective [Cross list with MSCI 599] (Spring 2020)
- ENVR 533** (3) Sustainability Projects Course (New Course Proposal: Spring 2020)
- ENVR 540** (3) Decolonizing the environment: Race, nature, power (New Course Proposal: Spring 2020)
- GEOL 542** (3) Methods in Geoscience Education Research (New Course Proposal: Spring 2020)
- HRTM 590** (3) Israel: Exploring Hospitality and Retail Culture in the Start-up Nation (Summer 2020)
- HRTM 590** (3) Luxury Management in Italy (Summer 2020)
- IBUS 519** (3) Social Networks and Global Leadership (New Course Proposal: Spring 2020)
- IBUS 590** (3) Specialized Study in International Business (New Course Proposal: Spring 2020)
- ITAL 516** (3) Practical Italian Phonetics (Delete Existing Course: Fall 2020)
- ITEC 560** (3) Project Management Methods (Course Change Proposal: Fall 2020)
- ITEC 564** (3) Capstone Project for Information Technology (Course Change Proposal: Fall 2020)
- ITEC 590** (3) Python Programming and Applications (Summer 2020)
- MSCI 599** (3) Oceans and Human Health: An Ecosystem and Public Health Perspective [Cross list with ENHS 592] (Spring 2020)
- PSYC 571** (3) Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory (Course Change Proposal: Fall 2020)
- PSYC 580** (3) Intermediate Statistics for Psychologists (Course Change Proposal: Fall 2020)

**SOCY 507** (3) Sociology of Social Control (Course Change Proposal: Fall 2020)  
**STAT 588** (3) Genomic Data Science (New Course Proposal: Spring 2020)  
**THEA 599** (3) Welding, Metalwork and Rigging (Spring 2020)

#### **Distributed Learning Proposals**

**ECIV 790** (3) Advanced Composite Materials for Civil Structures (Spring 2020)  
**ITEC 590** (3) Python Programming and Applications (Summer 2020)

#### **Special Topics Course Proposals**

**ACCT 741** (3) Fraud Examination & Investigation (Spring 2020)  
**BIOL 599** (3) Chords and Codons [**RESTRICTED TO UNDERGRADUATES**] (Spring 2020)  
**BIOL 599** (3) Experimental Design and Analysis (Spring 2020)  
**BIOL 599** (3) Genomic Data Science (Spring 2020)  
**ECIV 790** (3) Advanced Composite Materials for Civil Structures (Spring 2020)  
**ENHS 592** (3) Oceans and Human Health: An Ecosystem and Public Health Perspective [Cross list with MSCI 599] (Spring 2020)  
**ENHS 862**(3) Introduction to Environmental Science Research (Spring 2020)  
**ENVR 800** (3) Environmental Policy [Cross list with POLI 797] (Spring 2020)  
**HIST 700** (3) American Architecture (Spring 2020)  
**HRTM 590** (3) Israel: Exploring Hospitality and Retail Culture in the Start-up Nation (Summer 2020)  
**HRTM 590** (3) Luxury Management in Italy (Summer 2020)  
**ITEC 590** (3) Python Programming and Applications (Summer 2020)  
**MSCI 599** (3) Oceans and Human Health: An Ecosystem and Public Health Perspective [Cross list with ENHS 592] (Spring 2020)  
**MUED 793** (2) Teaching and Learning Applications of Music Perception and Cognition (Spring 2020)  
**POLI 797** (3) Environmental Policy [Cross list with ENVR 800] (Spring 2020)  
**PSYC 888** (3) Cognition, Learning & Cognitive Neuroscience (Spring 2020)  
**STAT 718** (3) Statistical Learning and Deep Learning (Spring 2020)  
**THEA 599** (3) Welding, Metalwork and Rigging (Spring 2020)

#### 10. **Associate Graduate Faculty Nominations** (Murray Mitchell)

Name: **Elizabeth Currin** (PhD)  
Program: Instruction and Teacher Education  
Term: Fall 2019 – Fall 2025

Name: **Leigh D’Amico** (PhD)  
Program: Instruction and Teacher Education  
Term: Fall 2019 – Fall 2025

Name: **Linda Silvernail** (EdD)  
Program: Instruction and Teacher Education  
Term: Fall 2019 – Fall 2025

**These nominations were unanimously approved by Graduate Council.**

11. **Fellowships and Scholarships Committee** (Jean Ellis)

No report.

12. **Report of Science, Math, and Related Professional Programs Committee** (Rick Creswick)

Below is a list of proposals reviewed by the Committee. Each curricular action can be viewed at this Public Agenda review site:

<https://www.sc.edu/programproposal/agenda/?id=77&code=GCO>

At this Public Agenda link, the individual proposals are not live-linked, but agenda items are listed in alphabetical order. To view the full proposals, GC members and Committee Chairs still need to go to the Committee Review site, and filter for "Committees", then for the "Committee" called "Added to Grad Council agenda."

- **ATEP Major / Degree Program**, MS in Athletic Training, Public Health, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **ATEP 700** (2) Principles of Athletic Training, Public Health, Change to Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **ATEP 702L** (1) Principles of Athletic Training Lab, Public Health, New Course Proposal: Spring 2020
- **ATEP 712** (2) Clinical Experiences in Athletic Training II, Public Health, Change to Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **ATEP 713** (2) Clinical Experiences in Athletic Training III, Public Health, Change to Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **ATEP 715** (5) Clinical Experiences in Athletic Training V, Public Health, Change to Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **ATEP 748L** (1) Evaluation & Therapeutic Intervention of Lower Extremity Injuries Lab, Public Health: Spring 2020
- **ATEP 749L** (1) Evaluation & Therapeutic Intervention of Head, Neck, & Spine Injuries Lab, Public Health, NCP: Spring 2020
- **ATEP 750L** (1) Evaluation & Therapeutic Intervention of Upper Extremity Injuries Lab, Public Health, NCP: Spring 2020
- **ATEP 770** (3) Research Methods & Prospectus Writing in Athletic Training, Public Health, NCP: Spring 2020
- **ATEP 797L** (1) Clinical Pathology & Pharmacology in Athletic Training Lab, Public Health, NCP: Spring 2020
- **BIOS 762** (3) Biostatistical Modeling of Genomic Data, Public Health, New Course Proposal: Spring 2020
- **BIOS 816** (3) Advanced R Programming in Public Health, Public Health, New Course Proposal: Spring 2020
- **CHME Major / Degree Program**, PhD in Chemical Engineering, Engineering & Computing, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **ELCT 839** (3) Robust Adaptive Control, Engineering & Computing, New Course Proposal: Spring 2020

- **EPBO Major / Degree Program**, MSPH in Biostatistics, Public Health, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2021
- **EPBEO Major / Degree Program**, MSPH in Epidemiology, Public Health, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2021
- **EXSC Dual Degree Program**, M.S. Joint Degree in Exercise Science, Public Health, New Program: Fall 2020
- **EXSC Dual Degree Program**, M.S. in Exercise Science, Public Health, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **GEOL 713**, Environmental Aspects of Paleontology, Arts and Sciences, Delete an Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **GEOL 747**, Advanced Coal Petrology, Arts and Sciences, Delete an Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **HSPM Dual Degree Program**, NMU 3+2 Program for HSPM MHA, Public Health, New Degree Program: Fall 2020
- **HSPM Dual Degree Program**, NMU 3+2 Program for HSPM MPH, Public Health, New Degree Program: Fall 2020
- **HSPM Major / Degree Program**, PhD in HSPM, Public Health, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **HSPM Major / Degree Program**, Master of Health Administration, Public Health, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **ITEC 790 (3)** Special Topics in Health Information Technology, Engineering and Computing, CCP: Fall 2020
- **ITEC 791 (3)** Introduction to Management of Information Security, Engineering and Computing, NCP: Spring 2020
- **ITEC 792 (3)** Management of Cyber Operations, Engineering and Computing, NCP: Spring 2020
- **ITEC 793 (3)** Cybersecurity Risk Management, Engineering and Computing, NCP: Spring 2020
- **NURS Major / Degree Program**, Nursing Science, Ph.D., Nursing, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **NURS Academic Certificate**, Advanced Practice Nursing Certificate, Nursing, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **PHYT Major/ Degree Program**, Doctor of Physical Therapy Program, Public Health, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **PHYT 721 (2)** Health Promotion & Wellness in Physical Therapy, Public Health, NCP: Spring 2020
- **PHYT 741 (1)** Clinical Documentation in Physical Therapy, Public Health, NCP: Spring 2020
- **PHYT 761 (2)** Pain Mechanisms and Treatment, Public Health, NCP: Spring 2020
- **PHYT 763 (3)** Modalities: Therapy and Application, Public Health, NCP: Spring 2020
- **PHYT 787 (1)** Seminar and Research in Physical Therapy, Public Health, NCP: Spring 2020
- **PHYT 806 (3)** Clinical Pathology and Differential Diagnosis, Public Health, NCP: Spring 2020
- **PHYT 807 (3)** Neuroplasticity and Genetics in Physical Therapy, Public Health, NCP: Spring 2020
- **PHYT 815 (3)** Management of Physical Therapy Practice, Public Health, Change to Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **PHYT 850 (4)** Clinical Experience in Physical Therapy I, Public Health, Change to Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **STAT Major / Degree Program**, PhD in Statistics, Arts and Sciences, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020

**These proposals were unanimously approved by Graduate Council.**

13. **Report of the Humanities, Social Sciences, Education, and Related Professional Programs Committee**  
(Robin DiPietro)

Below is a list of proposals reviewed by the Committee. Each curricular action can be viewed at this Public Agenda review site:

<https://www.sc.edu/programproposal/agenda/?id=77&code=GCO>

At this Public Agenda link, the individual proposals are not live-linked, but agenda items are listed in alphabetical order. To view the full proposals, GC members and Committee Chairs still need to go to the Committee Review site, and filter for “Committees”, then for the “Committee” called “Added to Grad Council agenda.”

- **ANTH 754**, Anthropology of Nonverbal Communication, Arts and Sciences, Delete an Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **ANTH 770**, Demographic Anthropology, Arts and Sciences, Delete an Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **ARTE 704**, School and Community Arts Management, Arts and Sciences, Delete an Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **EDEX 720** (3) Applied Research Experience in Special Education, Education, New Course Proposal: Spring 2020
- **EDEX 810** (3) Advanced Single-Case Research, Education, New Course Proposal: Spring 2020
- **EDHE 739** (3) Seminar on Diversity in Higher Education, Education, New Course Proposal: Spring 2020
- **EDHE 740** (3) Equity and Access in Higher Education, Education, New Course Proposal: Spring 2020
- **EDHE 741** (3) Seminar on Ethical Issues in Higher Education, Education, New Course Proposal: Spring 2020
- **EDSE 851** (3) Advanced Reading in Mathematics Education, Education, Change to Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **EDST Major / Degree Program**, Educational Technology, M.Ed., Education, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **ENGL Major / Degree Program**, MA in English, Arts and Sciences, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **ENGL Major / Degree Program**, PhD in English, Arts and Sciences, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **GEOG 723**, The Geography of Recreation, Arts and Sciences, Delete an Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **GEOG 724**, Seminar in Geography of Latin America, Arts and Sciences, Delete an Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **GEOG 725**, Seminar in Geography of Europe, Arts and Sciences, Delete an Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **GEOG 726**, Seminar in Geography of the Middle East and Africa, Arts and Sciences, Delete an Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **GEOG 748**, Geomorphology from Space, Arts and Sciences, Delete an Existing Course: Fall 2020

- **HIST Major / Degree Program**, History, M.A., Arts and Sciences, Change to Existing Program: Fall
- **HIST Major / Degree Program**, History, Ph.D., Arts and Sciences, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **HIST Major / Degree Program**, Public History, M.A., Arts and Sciences, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **HRTM 795** (3) Tourism and Hospitality Field Project, HRSM, New Course Proposal: Spring 2020
- **INTE Major / Degree Program**, Secondary Education, M.T., Education, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **LING 715**, Applied English Phonetics, Arts and Sciences, Delete an Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **LING 781**, Stylistics, Arts and Sciences, Delete an Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **MART 705**, Creativity in the Media Arts, Arts and Sciences, Delete an Existing Course: Fall 2020
- **MUSC Major / Degree Program**, Music Performance, Music, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **SOWK Major / Degree Program**, Social Work, Ph.D., Social Work, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **SOWK Major / Degree Program**, Social Work, MSW, Social Work, Change to Existing Program: Fall 2020
- **SPTD Dual Degree Program**, M.S.E.M., Joint Degree in Sport and Entertainment Management Hospitality, Retail, & Sport Management, New Program: Fall 2020
- **SPTD 880** (3) Sport and Society, HRSM, New Course Proposal: Spring 2020

**These proposals were unanimously approved by Graduate Council.**

14. **Report of the Grievances, Appeals and Petitions Committee** (Bobby Brame)  
No report.

15. **Other Committee Reports**  
None at this time.

16. **Old Business**  
None at this time.

17. **New Business**

Issue:

There is a contradiction in published policy between (1) statements in the thesis and dissertation language (under Degree Requirements); and (2) Language in the Academic Regulations under “Grading Policies.” I suspect the confusion was between calculating a U for ‘S/U’ courses into the GPA, and the clarification was not made in the Academic Regulations to differentiate these courses from 799 & 899 courses.

**Background:**

Language under Degree requirements for Thesis or Research Project says:

Completion or satisfactory progress in thesis preparation will be indicated by the grade of T; unsatisfactory progress in thesis preparation will be indicated by the grade of U, but thesis preparation grades are not calculated into the graduate cumulative grade point average.

Language under Degree requirements for Doctoral Degree Requirements says:

On the student's academic transcript completion or satisfactory progress in dissertation preparation will be indicated by the grade of T; unsatisfactory progress in dissertation preparation will be indicated by the grade of U. These grades will not be used to calculate the student's grade point average.

Language in Graduate Academic Regulations under "Grading Policies" says:

Grades of **T** (satisfactory progress) or **U** (unsatisfactory progress) are given for thesis (799) and dissertation (899) preparation. Grades of **T** in thesis (799) and dissertation (899) preparation are not computed in the cumulative graduate grade point average. Graduate-level courses completed with the grade of **U** are calculated as an **F** in the cumulative graduate grade point average.

**Action Proposal**

Given the rationale above, and support from the Associate/Assistant Graduate Deans Council, I propose the following Graduate Bulletin change:

Grades of **T** (satisfactory progress) or **U** (unsatisfactory progress) are given for thesis (799) and dissertation (899) preparation. **Grades of T or U** in thesis (799) and dissertation (899) preparation are not computed in the cumulative graduate grade point average. **Other graduate-level courses** completed with the grade of **U** are calculated as an **F** in the cumulative graduate grade point average.

Discussion:

Rick Creswick: Is there still a consequence for receiving a "U" for these courses? Response: Yes, students would not be able to "count" any credits noted as "U" on their transcript toward required hours of thesis or dissertation preparation. The grade would remain on the transcript and the student would be required to enroll in additional hours to meet degree requirements.

Jean Ellis: Should there be some mechanism to hold students accountable for earning many credits of "U" in these courses? Response: The more typical issue has been with students earning many credits of "T" grades without having had apparent contact with their faculty advisors. The underlying intention is to provide guidance to graduate students and their faculty mentors to facilitate timely graduation. So, using something similar to an independent study contract was suggested as a possible way for students and their advisors to share an understanding for what should be accomplished in any given semester for the credit hours in which students were enrolled. Also adding language to program handbooks for what might qualify as satisfactory progress in both the degree and for thesis/dissertation preparation was suggested as a potentially helpful intervention.

***This proposal was unanimously approved by Graduate Council.***

18. **Good of the Order**

Dr. Mitchell asked that all Council members and guests sign in on the roster for accountability purposes.

Dr. Mitchell also reminded the Council members that the next Graduate Council meeting will be held in the Career Center, 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Thomas Cooper Library, at 2:00 p.m. on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

19. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55p.m.

**Murray Mitchell, Secretary**

CC:

Bob Caslen, President

Tayloe Harding, Interim Provost

Cheryl Addy, Vice Provost & Dean of the Graduate School

Deans

Department Chairs

Graduate Directors

Aaron Marterer, University Registrar

Elaine Belesky, Office of the Registrar

Malia Kiehl, Office of the Registrar

Tara George, Office of the Registrar