



GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

December 14th, 2020

The Graduate Council met virtually on Monday, December 14, 2020 at 2:00 P.M.

Graduate Council members present: Dr. Jim Mensch, Chair; Drs., Nate Bell, Matt Boylan, Joanna Casey, Shanna Harrington, Elise Ince, Hippokratis Kiaris, Carmen Maye, Stephen Shapiro, Todd Shaw, Sheryl Wiskur, Nikki Wooten, Songhua Xu and Sudipta Saha (GSA Representative).

Graduate Council members absent: Drs. Suzanne Adlof, Ron Benner, Robin DiPietro, Srihari Nelakuditi, and Spencer Platt

Graduate School Representatives: Dr. Cheryl Addy, Dr. Murray Mitchell (Secretary), Dale Moore, Wright Culpepper, and Wanda Barr

Provost Office Representative: Trena Houp

Guests: Dr. Michael Bizimis (SEOE), Dr. Jihong Liu (Epidemiology and Biostatistics), Dr. James Hardin (Epidemiology and Biostatistics), Dr. Matthew Brashears (Sociology), and Maggie Carson (GSA)

NOTE: These minutes will become final on January 25, 2021 if not challenged.

- 1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda** (Jim Mensch, Chair)
The meeting was called to order at 2:02p.m., and the agenda was unanimously approved.
- 2. Approval of the [Minutes from November 23, 2020](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>
The minutes from November were unanimously approved.
- 3. Report of the Chair** (Jim Mensch)
No report.
- 4. Report of the Dean of Graduate School** (Cheryl Addy)
Dean Addy sent out an announcement regarding the realignment of the Provost Office. As of December 31st, she will no longer serve as Dean of the Graduate School. Dr. Tracey Weldon has been named Interim Dean of the Graduate School and Vice Provost of Graduate Education. She expressed her appreciation to the Graduate School staff, to the Graduate Council members, and to the members of GSA for the past four and half years. It is with mixed emotions that she makes this

change. For a variety of reasons, she thinks that the change is good for her, and she also hopes that the change will be good for all.

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

Dr. Mitchell thanked Dean Addy for her leadership in the Graduate School generally, graduate issues more broadly, and Graduate Council more specifically. It has been a pleasure working with her. He appreciates her command of policy related issues and guidelines.

6. Report on Professional Development (Wright Culpepper)

Wright reported that he had a couple of discussions about partnering with the Career Center regarding some CV and resume workshops, workshops on applying for federal jobs, and perhaps some MBTI assessments through the Career Center as well. The Graduate School is hoping to conduct either with VPR Office or the group who runs the “Graduation with Leadership Distinction Program” to do some virtual poster preparation sessions. Discover UofSC will be held in a virtual platform at the end of Spring semester and students will have a lot of questions and concerns about putting a poster presentation in a virtual format. We plan to offer opportunities for students to be trained either from a holistic standpoint or using the direct vendor platform that they will be working with for Discover UofSC.

The Presidential Fellowship nomination process window is now open. We are happy to report that the Fellowship funding has been increased from \$8,000 per academic year to \$10,000 per academic year. This means that the Ph.D. recipients will receive \$40,000 over four years to supplement their funding. Nominations must come from the graduate directors to send a nomination letter on behalf of an admitted Ph.D. or an MFA student from their programs. Programs can nominate up to two students—not two students per department but per program. They do have to nominate both students in the same round. There will be three rounds: January, February, and March. Both nominations per program must be nominated in the same round. All graduate directors and program administrators were sent a detailed email on the nomination process. The Committee is no longer requiring the GRE as a nomination factor. There will be a total of ten to twelve Presidential Fellows selected.

7. Report of the Graduate Student Association Representative (Sudipta Saha)

Sudipta thanked Dean Addy for her staunch advocacy for graduate students. Over the past few years, the graduate students received enhanced attention and recognition from university offices, which he feels would not have happened without her. She has always been very supportive and receptive to our comments, requests, and concerns.

This semester has been a strange one. The GSA was worried about how much traction they would get from the student community as a whole because of this pandemic. In retrospect, they pivoted well. He has been involved in GSA for past couple of years, and he can see the increased representation they are having from the students. The virtual platform may have worked well for the graduate students to be more involved.

This semester GSA enhanced their communication with university offices. They had established continuing dialogs with Office of the President, Provost, and VP of Diversity Equality Inclusion, VP of Research, Career Center and Housing. They also made their relationship with the International Student Services (ISS) stronger because they share some common entity. Mutual partnership with them will benefit the students greatly. This semester, ISS conducted training on cultural diversity and inclusion for the graduate students in partnership with GSA.

GSA organized two back-to-back townhall meetings, along with the bi-weekly general body meeting. The turnout has been great due to the online platforms. This gives us a new realization that when this

pandemic is over, they possibly will need to keep the virtual option open---the hybrid model will probably work the best.

On December 7th, GSA Treasurer, Christopher Eddy, spoke on behalf of the Graduate Student Association (GSA) at the Presidential Commission on University History. He said the following:

“Too often, the University of South Carolina fails to live up to the ideals laid out in our Carolinian Creed: respecting the dignity of all persons; respecting the rights and property of others; discouraging bigotry, and striving to learn from differences in people, ideas and opinions.

Far too often, our reality has deviated significantly from these ideals and it’s keeping with them that we must call out the shortcomings exemplified in: *Sims Hall*, the *Strom Thurmond Wellness and Fitness Center*, and most importantly, *the role of our institution in displacing Columbia’s Historic Ward 1 community*.

It is the hope of the Graduate Student Association that future generations at UofSC won’t need to continue putting up plaques or signs to correct for the decisions that we’re making today... Rather, that they can use those funds in commemorating the bold actions that we were willing to take to align our actions with our ideals”

To find out more information about the Presidential Committee on University History, head to this website → https://sc.edu/about/our_history/presidential_commission.php

On December 7th, GSA President, Maggie Carson, spoke with the University Housing officials. Currently, there are no dorms/housing for graduate students. The UofSC vacated the previous one (known as Carolina Gardens) for renovation in 2016. Since then, there has been little to no progress about this. GSA brought this to their attention and advocated for better accommodations for graduate students.

8. Report of the Academic Policy and Practices Committee (Nikki Wooten)

Dr. Wooten reported that her Committee has begun working with Dean Addy on the major modification/revision of the Graduate Bulletin. As progress is made, she will update the members of Graduate Council.

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 December 2020 Grad Council

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

None at this time.

Distributed Learning Proposals

None at this time.

Special Topics Course Proposals

These proposals will now go directly to the Registrar for scheduling.

10. Associate Graduate Faculty Nominations (Murray Mitchell)

Name: **Dwayne Alleyne** (DNP)
Program: College of Nursing
Term: Fall 2020 – Fall 2026

Name: **Sabra Custer** (DNP)
Program: College of Nursing
Term: Fall 2020 – Fall 2026

Name: **Joy Deupree** (PhD)
Program: College of Nursing
Term: Fall 2020 – Fall 2026

Name: **Jacqueline Haverkamp** (DNP)
Program: College of Nursing
Term: Fall 2020 – Fall 2026

Name: **Dianna Inman** (DNP)
Program: College of Nursing
Term: Fall 2020 – Fall 2026

Name: **Christy Jeffcoat** (DNP)
Program: College of Nursing
Term: Fall 2020 – Fall 2026

Name: **Kathleen LaSala** (PhD)
Program: College of Nursing
Term: Fall 2020 – Fall 2026

Name: **Margaret Selph** (DNP)
Program: College of Nursing
Term: Fall 2020 – Fall 2026

Name: **Kimberly Taylor** (DNP)
Program: College of Nursing
Term: Fall 2020 – Fall 2026

These nominations were unanimously approved by Graduate Council.

11. Fellowships and Scholarships Committee (Joanna Casey)

No report.

12. Report of Science, Math, and Related Professional Programs Committee (Hippokratis Kiaris)

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=94&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.”

- **CHME Major / Degree Program**, Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering, Engineering and Computing, Change Program: Fall 2021
- **EPBO Academic Certificate**, Maternal and Child Health Certificate Program, Public Health, New Program: Fall 2021
- **EXSC Major / Degree Program**, MS in Exercise Science, Joint Degree with Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Public Health, Change Program: Fall 2021
- **MATH Major / Degree Program**, Ph.D. in Mathematics, Arts and Sciences, Change Program: Fall 2021
- **STAT 772**, Binary Dose Response Theory and Methods, Arts and Sciences, Delete an Existing Course: Fall 2022
- **STAT 777**, Statistics Phylogenetics and Molecular Evolution, Arts and Sciences, Delete an Existing Course: Fall 2022

These proposals were unanimously approved by Graduate Council.

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

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

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- **ART Major / Degree Program**, MA in Media Arts, Arts and Sciences, Change Program: Fall 2021
- **EDLP 737** (3) Anti-racist Leadership, Education, NCP: Spring 2021
- **MUED 752** (3) Psychology of Music, Music, CCP: Spring 2021
- **MUED 753** (3) Instrumental Development and Related Materials, Music, CCP: Spring 2021
- **MUED 785** (3) Measurement and Evaluation of Music Learning, Music, CCP: Spring 2021
- **MUED 793** (1 - 3) Topics in Music Education, Music, CCP: Spring 2021
- **MUSC 742** (3) Music History for Educators, Music, CCP: Spring 2021 ****This course is being renumbered to 542 and will be routed to the Committee on Curricula and Courses (to report to the Faculty Senate)****
- **ZZBA Academic Certificate**, Graduate Certificate in Strategic Innovation, Business, New Program: Fall 2021

- **ZZED Major / Degree Program**, Educational Practice and Innovation, Ed.D. – Education Systems Improvement Concentration, Education, Change Program: Fall 2021

These proposals were unanimously approved by Graduate Council.

14. Report of the Grievances, Appeals and Petitions Committee (Carmen Maye)

No report.

15. Other Committee Reports

None.

16. Old Business

Sudipta Saha and Maggie Carson (GSA) revisited the ongoing graduation regalia issue of doctoral graduates who wish to wear a tam (rather than a mortar board) with their robe. They are currently receiving mortar board hats in their packages--which comes standard. The tam is more expensive and must be ordered separately. The cost of the tam is approximately \$35. There is also an issue of departments not informing the graduates of the proper regalia robe package to order. Although the Graduate School has no control or input in what the doctoral students receive in their cap and robe packages, Dr. Mitchell and Dale Moore will follow up on this option with the Bookstore and report their findings at a later meeting.

Graduates are also seeking some standardization guidance regarding what to order for the doctoral hooding ceremony so that they order and receive the correct items from the Bookstore. Dr. Mitchell stated that the standard colored robe is black, but no graduate will be turned away from walking in the hooding ceremony for wearing a different colored robe.

17. New Business

None at this time.

18. Good of the Order

None at this time.

19. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35p.m.

Murray Mitchell, Secretary

CC: Bob Caslen, President
William Tate, 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