



# The Graduate School

## UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

### GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

January 28, 2013

The Graduate Council met on Monday, January 28, 2013 at 2:00 P.M. in room 311 of the Byrnes Building.

**Graduate Council members present:** Drs. Subra Bulusu, Wayne Carver, Erik Drasgow, Edward Gatzke, J. Daniel Jenkins, Michael Hodgson, Kartik Kalaiganam, DeAnne Messias, Murray Mitchell, Lauren Sklaroff, Paul Solomon, Ercan Turk, Tracey Weldon-Stewart, Adela Vraciu, Lee Walker (Substituting for David Darmofal), Terrance Weik;

**Graduate Council members absent:** Dr. Minuette Floyd

**Graduate Council members excused:** Drs. Joe Quattro and Stacy Fritz; John Knox

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

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

**NOTE:** *These minutes will become final on February 27, 2013, if not challenged.*

1. **Call to Order and Approval of Agenda** (Paul Solomon, Chair-Elect).
2. **Approval of minutes** ([Minutes of the December 10, 2012 meeting](#)). The minutes were 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** (Joe Quattro is excused; Paul Solomon, Chair-Elect)  
No Report

4. **Report of the Dean of The Graduate School** (Lacy Ford)

Dr. Ford brought to the attention of the council the recent article, [More U of SC Courses Going Online](#), which ran in The State newspaper on Saturday, January 26, 2013.

Dr. Ford shared that USC has entered into an agreement with Academic Partnerships, a Dallas-based educational services company, to develop over the next two years, 5 to 7

asynchronous, online distance graduate programs. These will be programs that already exist and are approved by CHE and SACS for which the Provost, the Deans of the respective colleges, and Academic Partnerships believe can be effectively presented online and marketed.

Dr. Ford explained that Academic Partnerships will provide curriculum and course design services for fully online courses; plus, marketing, and recruiting and retention services. He stressed that USC maintains full control of the academic content, admissions and the processing of any academic related decision. In return for their services, USC will give Academic Partnerships, approximately, 1/3 of the tuition per each student.

The first program will begin March 18th, 2013.

The programs, which are selected by the Provosts, the Deans of various colleges, and Academic Partnerships, are mostly Masters level within a career oriented market. Programs which have currently been identified are as follows: Engineering Management, two or three programs in the College of Education, Health and Information Management in cooperation with Public Health and Hospitality, and the DNP program for Nurse Practitioners.

Dr. Ford addressed the roles of the Graduate Council and The Graduate School in their relationship with Academic Partnerships in these programs. He stressed that the role of the Graduate Council will remain the same with all programs; except, some programs which have not been previously approved for distance delivery which may require CHE or SACS notification, in consultation with Kris Finnegan. Regarding The Graduate School, the only changes will be the recruiting and retention of the online student pool, and the regular sharing of student information processing. Beginning in spring 2013, the data sharing with Academic Partnerships will be manual; after Banner is implemented, the data sharing will be processed electronically.

Some of the many new program benefits which Dr. Ford shared are the enhancement of the university brand at the Master's level within career oriented markets; simultaneously, there is an anticipated benefit of enhancing the profession and practice in a variety of sectors; the opportunity to enter markets previously conceded to for-profit enterprises; to increase revenue production from graduate programs—this is anticipated to not be transformative, but, to make a contribution. Additional anticipated benefits include the convenience of scheduling for students, the relief of stress in the over-crowded classrooms for faculty, and new in-state employment opportunities while still offering quality degrees.

Dr. Ford stated that no one else in SC is engaged in this type program at graduate level. He explained that USC loses Masters students to online programs. Some of the universities benefiting from similar online initiatives are North Carolina, Cincinnati, Louisiana and New Hampshire. He stressed that the proof will be in the results.

Dr. Ford opened the discussion to questions from Graduate Council members.

Dr. Messias stated that the DNP, Doctorate of Nursing Practice, is already an online program. She asked if these courses will be turned over to the Academic Partnership program.

Dr. Ford responded that the market for Academic Partnerships is new students; however, their goal is to help USC retain current students while recruiting new students. He added that their recruitment benefits involve advertising, direct mail, visitation to health care

facilities, and phone calls in order to point the students toward the university.

Dr. Drasgow announced the USC School of Education is recognized as ranking fifth in the country in the most recent US & World News Report of "Best Online Graduate Education Programs". This comment was acknowledged and appreciated by Dr. Ford and the Graduate Council. For more information, please follow the link below.

<http://www.usnews.com/education/online-education/education/rankings>

Dr. Messiah asked if the recruitment by Academic Partnerships is for online courses only.

Dr. Ford responded, yes.

Dr. Weik asked if Academic Partnerships have guidelines and restrictions regarding the online marketing and the website continuity with the current USC websites.

Dr. Ford responded yes. He explained that the approved USC templates will be maintained and approved by USC Communications who will be "working together" with the communications department at Academic Partnerships. Eventually, it is anticipated that Academic Partnership personnel will eventually be on campus (paid by Academic Partnerships) to support their work.

Dr. Eifenbein clarified that Academic Partnerships will be invisible to students.

Dr. Weldon-Stewart asked if the new programs involve existing faculty.

Dr. Ford replied yes, stating that they are not anticipating using adjunct faculty except where existing adjunct faculty are being used already. He continued that course content will be determined by faculty and USC but compensation decisions will be handled by deans of respective colleges.

Dr. Ford stated that the issue of compensation is not a simple directive at this point.

Dr. Hodgson asked who owns the course content of the online courses.

Dr. Ford stated that the university owns the content. The contracts between the university and Academic Partnerships are explicit regarding intellectual property ownership.

Dr. Gatzke stated that the Engineering Spring II Semester is an 8 week accelerated term. He asked if students and faculty are already in place.

Dr. Ford responded that Academic Partnerships has faculty in place and is marketing "as we speak" for students. He suggested that the course will appeal to SC corporations who employ engineers.

Dr. Turk asked how to make this initiative sound appealing to faculty who highly value the classroom experience.

Dr. Ford suggested the argument would be the opportunity to work at one's own pace by creating a more flexible schedule, potential increases in salary opportunities, not having to compete for classroom space, and shared funds from the tuition pool to benefit faculty research and travel.

Dr. Sklaroff asked how the several online degree programs would be staffed—especially in light of class sizes that might not be limited by physical space. She expressed concern for the added burden of grading materials in a timely fashion for large classes.

Dr. Ford suggested, as an example, that the pool of assistantships might be expanded to support faculty with large class sizes. This would be a negotiated set of terms between faculty teaching specific courses and department chairs and/or deans.

Dr. Gatzke asked if a number has been determined regarding tuition returns shared between the colleges and Academic Partnerships.

Dr. Ford said that the number is not yet determined. He stated that the undergraduate component of this endeavor through Palmetto College should begin marketing in the next 2 to 3 weeks and will include 7 degree programs.

Dr. Sklaroff asked how the student number increase is envisioned to date.

Dr. Ford stressed that the goal is not to turn a 200 student class into a 2000 student class.

Dr. Ford thanked everyone for the valid questions.

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

Dr. Mitchell reminded everyone to "sign-in" for the meetings each month.

Dr. Mitchell advised that a student petition has been submitted to the Petitions and Appeals Committee and will be forwarded to Dr. Dragow.

Dr. Mitchell shared that the Policies and Practices Committee asked that he explain more fully the military personnel policy on campus. He advised that this is a responsibility of the Bursar's Office. The policy has various guidelines at the undergraduate level but is less defined at the graduate level. He is still waiting for additional clarifications from the Bursar's Office.

Dr. Mitchell addressed a Policies and Practices question regarding Grade Changes, Form AS 301. He noted that this process is largely handled by department chairs at the undergraduate level, rather than by a committee of the Faculty Senate—a change made in 1999. He suggested that when a bit more history is uncovered regarding related issues, that the Policies and Practices committee would be receiving a charge to consider the practice at the graduate level (vs. requiring a signature from The Graduate School).

Dr. Mitchell addressed the practice of "place holders" and amendments for new Programs of Study. He would like to explore having guidance from Policies and Practices for more flexibility in identifying electives rather than specifying each particular course, and then having multiple groups processing many adjustments to programs of study.

Dr. Mitchell advised that a manual for Graduate Council members to reference various Grad Council committees, authorities and responsibilities, which has been revised as of June 2012, can be found on the Grad Council web page.

Dr. Mitchell asked that the Grad Council members expecting to "cycle off" in spring 2013

submit nominations for new council members. He shared that the Grad Council is made up of 18 faculty members of which 9 are elected and 9 are nominated. He suggests that the nominees should be those who are interested and enthusiastic about the Grad Council duties.

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

#### **500 / 600 LEVEL COURSES**

##### **New Course Proposals**

ANTH 535	Public Archaeology
ANTH 536	Public Archaeology
BIOL 571	[=ENVR 571] Conservation Biology
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HPEB 653	Nutrition Assessment and Counseling
LATN 540	Renaissance Latin
HRTM 521	Revenue Management in the Hospitality Industry

##### **Course Change Proposals**

BIOL 536	[MSCI 536] Ichthyology
MSCI 536	[BIOL 536] Ichthyology

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

Dr. Carver reported the first deadline for nominations for the Fellowships and Scholarships Committee has passed; and, resulted in 28 nominees which have been uploaded to GMS for review. He reminded Council of the Fellowships and Scholarships meeting on March 8th, 2013.

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

#### **COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

##### ***College of Nursing***

#### **Course Change Proposal/Bulletin Change**

**APPROVED**

From: [NURS J 793 Advanced Practice Practicum](#) (1-4 variable)  
Advanced Practice Practicum  
Supervised field study in advanced practice nursing.  
Seminars on related topics.

To: NURS J 793 Advanced Practice Practicum for Emphasis Area:  
Primary Care (3-4 variable)  
Advanced Practice Practicum for Emphasis Area: Primary Care  
Supervised field study in advanced practice nursing for primary

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care patients (pediatric, adult, and gerontological) across the delivery continuum. Seminars on related topics.

[Effective Term: Spring 2013]

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

**COLLEGE OF MASS COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE  
SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE**

**Academic Programs Actions / Bulletin Change**

**APPROVED**

From: [Master of Library and Information Science](#) (36)

There is NO mention of the thesis option in the current Graduate Bulletin; however, when SLIS adopted the professional portfolio as the comprehensive assessment for ALL students in the Master of Library and Information Science, the thesis option was never OFFICIALLY removed as an option.

The Faculty of SLIS wants to make sure that this option is not listed anywhere, so to that end submits this formal action.

To: Master of Library and Information Science (36)  
No Change.

[Effective Term: Spring 2013]

**Course Change Proposal**

**APPROVED**

From: [SLIS 704 Intro to Management of Libraries, Media Centers, and Information Agencies](#) (3)

To: SLIS 704 Introduction to the Management of Libraries, School Libraries, and Information Agencies (3)

[Effective Term: Spring 2013]

**Course Change Proposal**

**APPROVED**

From: [SLIS 529 Special Topics in Library, Information, and Media Services](#) (3)

To: Special Topics in Library and Information Studies (3)

[Effective Term: Spring 2013]

**Course Change Proposal**

**APPROVED**

From: [SLIS 721 Seminar in School Media Programs](#) (3)

To: Seminar in School Library Programs (3)

[Effective Term: Spring 2013]

**New Course Proposal**

**APPROVED**

[SLIS 810 Human Information Interactions and Cultural Institutions](#) (3)  
Explores libraries and other cultural institutions as lifelong educational environments where complex human interactions take place.

Over the past two years, the promising intersection of cultural organizations has been a topic of strong interest to practitioners and scholars associated with these institutions. This course introduces the interdisciplinary framework, social perspectives, and research methods required to development an understanding of this intersection, the changes that will be required as new technologies alter the way that people engage with these institutions, and the challenges that have begun to emerge as their boundaries become less defined. This type of interdisciplinary framework is needed to address these topics and address both the human information needs that impel cultural institutions and the steps and strategies by which these needs may be recognized and resolved in these information rich environments.

Prerequisites/Corequisites: Permission of the instructor

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**New Course Proposal**

**APPROVED**

[SLIS 811 Technologies in Cultural Institutions](#) (3)  
Explores concepts related to current technologies used in cultural institutions.

This course provides an opportunity for doctoral students to explore the issues associated with the implementation, evaluation and management of various technologies found in cultural institutions. Students will gain practical experience working with different technologies through class demonstrations and will be exposed to different technical environments via class field trips.

[Prerequisites/Corequisites: Permission of the instructor]

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

**SCHOOL OF MUSIC**  
*Degrees in Music*

**Bulletin Change**

**APPROVED**

From: [Doctor of Musical Arts](#) (48)  
Degree Requirements  
Prior to taking any graduate music study, all doctoral students must take the Graduate Music Diagnostic Examination and, early in their studies, complete all deficiencies and required courses resulting from the exam. Doctoral students must be admitted to degree candidacy no later than the completion of the equivalent of two semesters of full-time study (12 credits total for graduate assistants and 18 credits total for others) and must complete a minimum of 48

credit hours of graduate work past the master's degree. At least 18 of the credit hours must be completed as part of doctoral residency (18 approved credits taken within a span of three consecutive semesters, with at least one semester being spent in full-time study on the Columbia campus). The residency requirement for D.M.A. students in composition consists of a minimum of four full-time semesters of study on the Columbia campus, three of which must be consecutive. ~~Prior to the scheduling of the comprehensive examination, degree candidates must have satisfied reading proficiency in a foreign language.~~ Candidates for the D.M.A. must also complete written comprehensive examinations in the major area (and any minor area) as well as an oral comprehensive examination that covers the major area, music history/literature, music theory, and any doctoral minor. In addition, degree candidates must complete a dissertation or dissertation requirement, as follows: those in conducting or performance must present four full recitals and submit a research document; candidates in composition must complete a dissertation consisting of a musical work of major proportions and a research document; and candidates in piano pedagogy must complete a written dissertation or present two recitals and complete a written treatise. The final doctoral requirement is the successful oral defense of the dissertation or dissertation requirement. Specific program requirements are listed online

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conducting or performance must present four full recitals and submit a research document; candidates in composition must complete a dissertation consisting of a musical work of major proportions and a research document; and candidates in piano pedagogy must complete a written dissertation or present two recitals and complete a written treatise. The final doctoral requirement is the successful oral defense of the dissertation or dissertation requirement.

[Effective Term: Fall 2013]

12. **Report of the Petitions and Appeals Committee** (Erik Drasgow)  
No Report

13. **Other Committee Reports**  
No Report

14. **Old Business**  
No Report

15. **New Business**

Dr. Elfenbein announced the first [Graduate School Newsletter](#) may be viewed online; and, a new Assistant Director of Recruitment, Data and Special Events, Wright Culpepper, has joined the department. She shared that Wright will be the "point person" for Grad Student Day which is Friday, April 12th, 2013. A new component for Grad Student Day will be a 3-minute dissertation and thesis speech competition for which there will be training.

Dr. Elfenbein asked that Grad Council members mark their calendars for this date to share in the activities and to participate as judges.

Dr. Elfenbein asked that, if council members had not yet "liked us" on Facebook, to please do so. She asked that council members spread the word of the social media networking by The Graduate School since it is a valuable source of sharing news and funding opportunities that may be particularly of use to students.

16. **Good of the Order**  
No Report

17. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:01pm

**Murray Mitchell, Secretary**

cc:  
President Harris Pastides  
Vice Provost & Dean of Graduate Studies Lacy Ford  
Provost Michael Amiridis  
Deans  
Department Chairs  
Graduate Directors

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Aaron Marterer, University Registrar  
Jodie Morris, Office of the Registrar  
Andrew Graves, Office of the Registrar  
Nancy Floyd, Office of Institutional Assessment and Compliance