



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES  
October 27, 2008

## The Graduate School

The Graduate Council met on Monday, October 27, 2008 at 2:00p.m. in room 311 of the Byrnes Building.

**Graduate Council members present:** Dr. Zach Kelehear, Chair; Drs. Nancy Brown, Lucia Pirisi-Creek, Xiaomin Deng, Scott Huebner, Satish Jayachandran, Murray Mitchell, Francisco Sanchez, Donna Shannon, Andrew Shifflett, Ognian Trifonov, Nic Ularu, George Voulgaris, and Mike Wyatt; Student Association Representative, Stephen Mann

**Graduate Council members absent:** Drs. Marianne Bickle, JoAnne Herman, Shirley Staples Carter, and Irma VanScoy

**Graduate School Representatives:** Dr. James Buggy, Interim Dean; Drs. Stanley Dubinsky, Nancy Zimmerman; Janice Byrd

**Provost Office Representative:** Dr. Aileen Trainer - excused

**Guests:** None

**NOTE: These minutes will become final on November 30, 2008, if not challenged.**

1. **Chair's Remarks** (Zach Kelehear)

Dr. Kelehear called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM.

2. **Approval of minutes**

A correction to the September 22, 2008 minutes was made. Dr. George Voulgaris was marked present when he was absent. Once the correction is made, the minutes from the [September 22, 2008](#) meeting will be approved and final on October 29, 2008.

### 3. Report of the Interim Dean of The Graduate School (James Buggy)

- The electronic Thesis/Dissertation submission process is now operational. Students who have used the UMI (ProQuest) portal to submit documents report that it is easy to use. Guidelines for use are located at this Graduate School webpage <http://129.252.250.139/thesisdissertation/>.
- Dr. Buggy met with the Provost to review admission standards as requested by USC Internal Audit. It was concluded that current admission practices are satisfactory.
- Dr. Buggy announced that the new graduate application system with CollegeNET is operational and being used.
  - Dr. Buggy encourages all academic units to become familiar with the applicant interface <https://www.applyweb.com/apply/usccg/> by creating a dummy account to review the application as students view it, and to verify that their degree programs are listed and that the supplemental application is correct.
    - User IDs for the administrator's portal have already been assigned to academic units. On the Graduate School website under the Faculty & Staff tab <http://www.gradschool.sc.edu/facultystaff/#collegenet>, there is an option for academic units to request an account user ID if they don't already have one. Other resources available through this tab are links to the following:
      - CollegeNet Tech Support
      - CollegeNet User's Guide
      - CollegeNet Overview-how to access applications
      - Graduate Major Codes
    - Two weeks ago, the Graduate School held a webinar orientation conducted by CollegeNet. Another orientation will be held soon for those unable to attend that session.
- Dr. Buggy advised the Council of *GradShare* - a new internet resource for graduate students hosted by ProQuest. GradShare is a community of graduate students at universities throughout the country seeking a better experience in graduate school and beyond through the sharing of questions, answers, and links. USC is a participating university and our students will have access to links for USC specific library and research resources as well as to generic links available to all users. The address for the portal is <http://www.gradshare.com/landing.html> - faculty and staff are also welcome to use *GradShare*.
- Dr. Buggy conveyed to the Council that the Council of Academic Deans had reviewed the two documents submitted by the Special Study group that worked this spring: *Provost's Task Force Report on the Role of the Graduate School* and University of Arizona Dean Comrie's report. These two documents were distributed to Graduate Council members for review with the meeting's agenda. Dr. Kelehear asked Council members to thoroughly review the two documents for substantial discussion and possible recommendations at the next Graduate Council meeting as President Pastides asked of the Graduate Council at the September 22, 2008 meeting.
- The Council was advised that currently the *Provost's Special Study Group - Graduate Life* is completing its report on expenses of graduate education, particularly graduate assistant stipends and health insurance subsidy as compared to regional and peer aspirant institutions. The report will be presented to the Provost at the end of October.

- Dr. Buggy, Dr. Dubinsky, and Dr. Zimmerman revised the *Graduate Bulletin* and *Graduate Director's Manual* this summer. One of the changes made was an increase in the graduate assistant stipend from \$1000 to \$2000 minimum per semester for not more than 10 hours per week and from \$2,000 to \$4,000 minimum per semester for not more than 20 hours per week. This change was made so that graduate programs at USC would be competitive with peer universities.
    - Two colleges, Social Work and Education, have received exceptions to the new minimums for this academic year. Dr. Buggy assigned Dr. Nancy Zimmerman to work with the Academic Policies and Practice's Committee to review the stipend minimums, and Dr. Stanley Dubinsky to meet with Social Work and the Provost Office to explore alternate methods to extend in-state tuition to nonresidents. Dr. Buggy highly encourages all Council members that would like to contribute to ideas or solutions to particular departmental issues to either meet with the Academic Policies and Practice's Committee or aid Dr. Dubinsky. Dr. Buggy stated his view that Graduate Assistant appointment should have the purposes of contributing to the university's education program and providing professional development for the student rather than primarily a means of tuition reduction.
    - In response to a question, advantages of summer enrollment for graduate assistants are listed at this webpage <http://www.gradschool.sc.edu/doclibrary/documents/Graduate.Assistants.summer.enrollment.pros.and.cons.pdf> . USC Payroll interprets federal guidelines that a student on stipend must be enrolled for the minimum number of credit hours in summer or FICA will be charged to both the student and the employer.
4. **Report of the Associate Dean / Secretary of the Graduate Council** (Stanley Dubinsky and Nancy Zimmerman)
 

No report
  5. **Report of the Academic Policy and Practices Committee** (Zach Kelehear)
 

No report
  6. **Report of the Petitions and Appeals Committee** (Nancy Zimmerman for JoAnne Herman)
 

No report
  7. **Other Committee Reports**

None
  8. **Report of the Committee on 500/600 Level Courses, Distance Education, and Special Courses** (Nancy Zimmerman)

**500-600 Level Courses:**

Faculty Senate Committee on Curricula and Courses met on October 17, 2008.

**Approvals:**

BIOL 572 [crosslisted ENVR 572] - new  
 ENVR 572 [crosslisted BIOL 572] - new  
 CHEM 511 - prerequisites

**Not approved and returned to unit for revisions:**

GEOG 512 - new  
 ARAB 580 - new  
 JOUR 532- prerequisites

The next meeting of the Committee on Curricula and Courses will be held November 14, 2008.

**TIP Approvals:**

Administrative approval of technology assisted instruction delivery proposals was given for the following existing courses:

NURS J739  
 NURS J776  
 EDRD J715

**Administrative Correction:**

NURS 739 [crosslisted WGST 739] - administratively corrected course title on CCP  
 NURS 739 approved by Graduate Council Spring 2008 to make course title for NURS 739 the same as the crosslisted course WGST 739. Course title changed from previously approved title, *Conceptual Base for Women's Health Nursing*, to title, *Conceptual Base for Women's Health*.

9. **Report of the Humanities, Social Sciences, Education, and Related Professional Programs Committee** (Murray Mitchell)

**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES****Art**

Curriculum Bulletin Change Proposal:

**APPROVED**

[Master of Arts in Art History](#)

Curriculum change for the M.A. program in Art History to remove ARTH 501(Methodology) from the list of required courses and replace it with a choice between four core areas

[Effective: Spring 2009]

New Course Proposal:

**TABLED FOR NEXT MEETING**

[ARTH 528, 728](#) Art and Science, 1700-1900 (3) An examination of the cultural, historical, philosophical, and political connections between art and science during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

[Effective: Spring 2009]

New Course Proposal: **TABLED FOR NEXT MEETING**  
[ARTH 531,731](#) Women and the Visual Arts in the Eighteenth Century (3) A seminar focusing on the roles of women in the visual arts in the eighteenth century. Women's roles as artists, subjects, patrons, collectors, and muses will be critically examined and discussed alongside the historiography of scholarship on the subject.

[Effective: Spring 2009]

**Note:** After discussion of ARTH 528/728 and 531/731, the appropriateness of the practice of assignment of 500 and 700 level numbers to the same course within a program was referred to the Policies and Practices Committee of the Graduate Council for review.

### ***Political Science***

Curriculum Bulletin Change Proposal: **APPROVED**  
[Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science](#)  
 A Public Law concentration for the Ph.D. program in Political Science

[Effective: Spring 2009]

New Course Proposal: **APPROVED**  
[POLI 726](#) Seminar in Judicial Politics (3) An introduction to the academic literature on American courts and judicial politics.

[Prereq: None]

[Effective: Spring 2009]

New Course Proposal: **APPROVED**  
[POLI 727](#) Models for Understanding Political Institutions (3)  
 A survey of the literature on empirical and game theory methods.

[Prereq: POLI 502 and POLI 706]

[Effective: Spring 2009]

New Course Proposal: **APPROVED**  
[POLI 728](#) Judicial Politics in Europe and the Common Law World (3) A comparative study of courts of Europe and the and the common law courts of modern democracies (especially Australia, Canada, India, and the United Kingdom). US state courts will also be examined from a comparative perspective.

[Prereq: None]

[Effective: Spring 2009]

New Course Proposal: **APPROVED**  
[POLI 729](#) Courts in Developing Countries (3) A comparative study of courts, judicial process, and judicial behavior, and the role of courts in politics focusing on the common law and civil law courts of Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

[Prereq: None]  
 [Effective: Spring 2009]

Curriculum Bulletin Change Proposal: **APPROVED**  
[Master of Public Administration](#)  
 With regard to the level-of-government requirement, the three hours involved would shift to elective credits, increasing the number of electives from five to six to receive the M.P.A. The presumption is that the level-of-government considerations would be covered in advisement on an individual basis; therefore, this section should be deleted from the bulletin (4, 5, and 6 then become 3, 4, and 5). Regarding the joint MPA degree program at Clemson University, Clemson officially withdrew from the program effective July 2008 with the intention of establishing their own program. According to the contract stipulations, both USC and Clemson would remain obligated to continue offering courses for those students already enrolled to facilitate completing their degree; therefore, this section should be deleted from the bulletin.

[Effective: Fall 2009]

### ***Women's and Gender Studies***

Curriculum Bulletin Change Proposal: **APPROVED**  
[Designator change – from WOST to WGST](#)

[Effective: Fall 2009]

## **COLLEGE OF MASS COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION SCIENCES**

### ***School of Journalism and Mass Communications***

Curriculum Bulletin Change Proposal: **APPROVED**  
[Ph.D. in Mass Communications](#)

The doctoral program in mass communications is currently a 48-hour program, 36 hours of coursework and 12 hours of dissertation credit (minimum). The program will become a 60-hour program (beyond the master's degree) with 48 hours coursework and a minimum of 12 hours of dissertation credit.

[Effective: Fall 2009]

10. Report of Science, Math, and Related Professional Programs Committee (Mike Wyatt)

**ARNOLD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

***Department of Health Promotion, Education and Behavior***

Course Change Proposal: **APPROVED**

[HPEB 771](#) Environmental Influences on Human Health (3)  
Delete this course because the content is not relevant for academic programs within the department. ENHS has courses (e.g., ENHS 660) with similar content that could replace this course if there is student interest.

[Effective: Spring 2009]

New Course Proposal: **APPROVED**

[HPEB 771](#) Socio-Cultural Perspectives on Population Health (3) Theories, measurement, and empirical evidence related to macro-level factors and health. How socio-cultural and physical environments as well as socially ascribed identities can constrain or promote health.

[Prereq: None]

[Effective: Spring 2009]

**SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**

***Chemistry and Biochemistry***

Curriculum Bulletin Change Proposal: **APPROVED**

[Chemistry M.S. and Ph.D. Degrees](#)

The wording outlined in the bulletin does not adequately outline the specific requirements for the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees, so new wording has been generated to outline the required courses, number of hours, and thesis/dissertation requirements.

[Effective: Fall 2009]

**SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**

***Department of Neuropsychiatry & Behavioral Science/Rehabilitation Counseling***

Curriculum Bulletin Change Proposal: **APPROVED**

[Master of Rehabilitation Counseling](#)

Admission standards changed to include the Millers Analogies Test (MAT) as a testing option for admissions.

[Effective: Fall 2009]

Curriculum Bulletin Change Proposal:

**APPROVED**

[Certificate of Graduate Study in Psychiatric Rehabilitation](#)

Admission standards changed to include the Millers Analogies Test (MAT) as a testing option for admissions.

[Effective: Fall 2009]

**11. Old Business**

- JoAnne Herman resigned as Co-Chair of the Graduate Council and Andrew Shifflett accepted the position. By acclamation Dr. Shifflett will be the Co-Chair for the Graduate Council's 2008-2009 term.

**12. New Business**

**13. Good of the Order**

- From this point on, the Graduate Student Association Representative's (GSA) report will be added as agenda item number five (before Committee reports begin) for all meetings. Stephen Mann serves as this year's GSA representative.

**14. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.




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Nancy Zimmerman, Secretary

cc:

President Harris Pastides

Provost Mark P. Becker

Deans

Department Chairs

Graduate Directors

Barbara Blaney, University Registrar

Jodie Morris, Office of the Registrar

Gail Stephens, Office of the Registrar

Thom Harman, University Publications

Nancy Floyd, Office of Institutional Assessment and Compliance