



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES
December 08, 2008

The Graduate School

The Graduate Council met on Monday, December 08, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. in room 311 of the Byrnes Building.

Graduate Council members present: Dr. Zach Kelehear, Chair; Drs. Marianne Bickle, Nancy Brown, JoAnne Herman, Scott Huebner, Satish Jayachandran, Murray Mitchell, Donna Shannon, Andrew Shifflett, Shirley Staples Carter, Francisco Sanchez, Ognian Trifonov, Irma VanScoy, and George Voulgaris; Stephen Mann

Graduate Council members absent: Drs. Xiaomin Deng, Lucia Pirisi-Creek, Nic Ularu and Mike Wyatt

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

Provost Office Representative: Dr. Kristia Finnigan – excused

Guests: Dr. Joanna Casey

NOTE: These minutes will become final on January 09, 2009, if not challenged.

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

Dr. Kelehear called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

2. **Approval of minutes**

The minutes from the [November 24, 2008](#) meeting will be approved and final on January 03, 2008.

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

- Dr. Buggy referenced a recent message from President Harris Pastides regarding the severity of the budget crisis. Dr. Buggy advised the Council to read the document for an appreciation of changes that will affect graduate education:
http://president.sc.edu/statements_speeches/facstaff_12082008.php.
- Dr. Buggy advised the Council that the Fall 2008 Doctoral Commencement and Hooding Ceremony will be held on Monday, December 15th at 1:30 pm. Dr. Kelehear will lead the procession of the doctoral candidates and all Council members are encouraged to attend. More information regarding the commencement exercises can be located on the Graduate School website <http://129.252.250.139/commencement/hoodingceremony.htm>.
- Dr. Buggy reported on the Fall 2008 Meeting of Graduate Directors and Program Administrators held on Thursday, December 04th. Dr. Buggy advised that the Agenda was sent to all Council members and serves as an informative document for individuals who were unable to attend or as use as a reference.
- The Report on Graduate Student Life, chaired by Dean Michael Amiridis was not yet sent to the Council. Dr. Buggy will attach the document to the agenda for next month's Graduate Council meeting to be held on January 26, 2009. Dr. Buggy will also email the document to all Council members.
- Dr. Buggy advised the Council that *The Chronicle of Higher Education* has published results of a survey regarding stipends for Graduate Assistants <http://chronicle.com/stats/stipends/>. This database shows the stipends and benefits provided to graduate assistants at more than 100 colleges and universities. All data were reported by the universities and are for the 2008-09 academic year and include the average stipends for six disciplines: biology, economics, english, history, mechanical engineering, and sociology. The Graduate School has participated so that USC graduate students can compare their stipends to that of other institutions.
- Dr. Buggy stated that *The Chronicle of Higher Education* includes an update about the National Research Council (NRC) assessment of doctoral programs referenced at the Council of Graduate Schools annual meeting held in Washington, DC last week. There an announcement from Charlotte Kuh, Coordinator NRC, stating that the report will be issued in mid-February 2009:
http://chronicle.com/daily/2008/12/8111n.htm?utm_source=at&utm_medium=en.

4. **Report of the Associate Dean / Secretary of the Graduate Council** (Stanley Dubinsky and Nancy Zimmerman)

- No report

5. **Report of the Graduate Student Association Representative** (Stephen Mann)

- No report

6. **Report of the Academic Policy and Practices Committee** (Zach Kelehear)

- 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:

The next meeting of the Committee on Curricula and Courses will be held January 16, 2009.

TIP Approvals:

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

[NURS 710](#)

[NURS 732](#)

[NURS 898](#)

9. **Fellowships Committee** (Stanley Dubinsky)

Dr. Zimmerman advised the Council that deadlines for Fellowships and Awards are soon approaching and can be viewed on The Graduate School website

<http://www.gradschool.sc.edu/support/>.

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

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Anthropology

New Course Proposal:

APPROVED

[ANTH 797 Reading and Research \(3\)](#)

Independent study course designed to facilitate student's research. An independent study contract with content approved by instructor is required.

Prereq: Permission of the instructor.

[Effective: Spring 2009]

11. **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:

NOT APPROVED

From: [HPEB 770 Health Education in Developing Countries \(3\)](#)

Development of programs in predominantly rural third world countries. Foreign nationals may substitute this course for HPEB 700.

To: **HPEB 770** Social and Behavioral Perspectives (3)

Concepts and theories from disciplines including anthropology, sociology, psychology, and communication applied to the analysis of health behaviors and health promotion programs across the world.

Course Change Proposal:

NOT APPROVED

From: [HPEB 772 Current Trends in Developing World Health \(3\)](#)

Development of programs in predominantly rural third world countries. Foreign nationals may substitute this course for HPEB 700.

To: **HPEB 772** Responding to Global Health Challenges (3)

Selected global health challenges are used to examine sociopolitical, advocacy, policy, organizational, and programmatic actions by governmental, non-governmental, and international institutions aiming to improve health in low- and middle- income countries.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Obstetrics and Gynecology

New Course Proposal:

APPROVED

[HGEN 722 Human and Medical Genetics \(3\)](#)

The principles of genetics as they apply to medicine and the basic concepts needed for an understanding of human genetics. Current knowledge and essential areas of research in human and medical genetics.

Prereq: BIOL 302 and 303 or equivalent with consent of instructor

[Effective: Spring 2009]

12. **Report of the Petitions and Appeals Committee** (JoAnne Herman)

- No report

13. Old Business

- This meeting was Dr. Dubinsky's last Graduate Council meeting. Dr. Buggy thanked Dr. Dubinsky for all his hard work and dedication to The Graduate School and Graduate Council and wished him luck in his new position as director of the new Jewish Studies program in the College of Arts and Sciences.

14. New Business

- Dr. Buggy asked Council to suspend the 30 day waiting period for course approvals to be effective so students can register in these courses for Spring 2009. Approved by Council acclamation.
- Dr. Kelehear announced that the Academic Policy and Practices committee would like the entire Council to provide feedback to questions regarding the *Provost's Task Force Report on the Role of the Graduate School* and University of Arizona Dean Comrie's report at the January 26, 2009 meeting. The questions will be provided via email along with the agenda.

15. Good of the Order

- Dr. Kelehear and the Council reaffirmed a thank you to Dr. Dubinsky for his work with the Graduate Council.

16. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m.



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