



The Graduate School

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

March 27, 2017

The Graduate Council met on Monday, March 27, 2017 at 2:00PM in room 311 of the Byrnes Building.

Graduate Council members present: Dr. Matt Brown, Chair; Drs. Bobby Brame, Jr., Cathy Brant, Matthew Childs, Dirk den Ouden, Maryah Fram, Caryn Outten, Douglas Pittman, David Tedeschi, Collin Webster, Kellee White, Scott White and Susan Yeargin; Mark VanDriel, GSA Representative.

Graduate Council members absent: Drs. Swann Adams, Drucilla Barker, Blaine Griffen, and Sali Li.

Graduate School Representatives: Dr. Cheryl Addy, Dr. Murray Mitchell, Dale Moore, and Wanda Barr

Provost Office Representative: Dr. Tena Crews

Guests: Andy Graves

NOTE: These minutes will become final on April 24, 2017 if not challenged.

1. **Call to Order and Approval of Agenda** (Matt Brown, Chair)

Dr. Matt Brown called the meeting to order at 2:02pm and received Council approval of the agenda.

2. **Approval of the [Minutes from February 27, 2017](http://app.gradschool.sc.edu/gradcouncil/minutes.asp)**. The minutes were reviewed electronically and 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** (Matt Brown)

Dr. Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting. No report at this time.

4. **Report of the Dean of Graduate School** (Cheryl Addy)

Dr. Cheryl Addy announced the invitation to serve as a volunteer judge for various activities related to the combined Undergraduate Day/Graduate Student Day put on by Discover USC in April. We will follow up to let you know more about this in a few days when we find out what, if anything, is required of us. Your participation as a judge for oral papers, posters and the 3MT competition is always needed

and valued. If you are not able to serve in any manner as a judge or as a volunteer, please at least plan to attend.

At the previous meeting, Dr. Dirk den Ouden gave a thorough presentation of the Policy and Practices Committee's University's policies relating to developing academic programs with partnerships and how they fit into International Programs. She and Dr. Tena Crews met and worked through those, but she has not yet met with Dr. Allen Miller to finalize them. She greatly appreciates the hard work that went into this effort.

While APPS is a wonderful upgrade to the previous systems for courses and curriculum approvals, there are some definite disconnects in the different processes for various things. APPS is where program changes are submitted. The Academic Assessment Systems is where the learning outcomes are. A disconnect exists between the Graduate Bulletin statements of Program Learning Outcomes and Learning Outcomes stated for individual courses. There has been a lot of discussion about what can be done to make those systems a little more connected. More talks are planned on how we can address this and other issues. They are very different but interrelated activities.

The Graduate School has built many systems around the Graduate Management System (GMS). Some are related to applicant and student data and some are not. Because GMS is so embedded within the website, we haven't done a good job of getting our website up to current University CMS standards. We have started some discussion about the different functions that are associated with GMS and what we can do in a timely manner with the website, and strengths and weaknesses of CollegeNet (our portal for graduate student applications). We will be trying to figure out what is our best strategy to keep operating efficiently while simultaneously working to improve efficiency where we can. Our goal is to make sure the different systems interact appropriately and maintain data security standards. When and if we ask for your input as Graduate Council or as Graduate Directors or users of the system, please respond and help guide us in terms of making the best decisions.

Several of us attended the recent Conference of Southern Graduate Schools (CSGS) meeting in Annapolis Maryland. The student component of the meeting affirms that what we are doing to work with the 3MT initiative to promote thesis and dissertation projects is really a very nice way to help us tell our story about the importance of education and helps our students tell their story.

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

Dr. Murray Mitchell added that attendance at the CSGS helped us appreciate where we are relative to other institutions in the Southeast and that we are solidly in line qualitatively with what's going on in graduate education. We were able to confirm that we are doing a quality job with graduate education in terms of how we recruit, how we help students get through their programs, and the kinds of resources that are available here. Everybody is struggling with restricted resources.

In addition to the meeting being one day longer than it needed to be, what was most disappointing about this meeting was the number of sessions that were very thinly veiled sales pitches by groups that had products to sell, mixed in with sessions that actually informative about the pros and cons of products that they had used. Normally, there is a very clear separation between vendors and presenters. That distinction was less apparent at this conference.

There are a number of Graduate Council members who for various reasons are unable to fulfill their terms on the Council. Dr. Collin Webster from Physical Education is finishing out Dr. David Stodden's term. It is also time to nominate colleagues who you think may be qualified and interested in serving on the Graduate Council and/or any of the various Council committees. Please don't recommend or encourage anyone who will be taking a sabbatical or who always teaches on Monday afternoons. A formal call will be issued later. As a reminder, the Council meets once per month throughout the academic year every fourth Monday at 2:00p.m. If you happen to be rotating off, or are in a research group, or doing anything else with anyone that you know that has a vested interest in graduate education, please share the information with them or give their names to him so he can reach out to them.

The committees include the two Curriculum subcommittees (Humanities, Social Sciences, Education and Related Professional Programs Committee and the Science, Math, and Related Professional Programs Committee). These subcommittees meet on the second Monday of each month during the academic year to consider proposals that have been submitted by the first of the month. They make recommendations to proposal proponents and to the Graduate Council. Grievances, Appeals and Petitions Committee and Academic Policy and Practices Committee meet on an "as needed" basis. The Grievances, Appeals and Petitions Committee hasn't had any business, and Academic Policy and Practices Committee has had limited business this semester. Thanks are due to Dale Moore serving in the Ombudsman capacity and helping students figure out what their options are and finding ways through the bureaucracy without having to come through the formal committee. The Fellowships and Scholarships Committee tends to be Spring-heavy, meetings last about one to two hours once in January, February and March, with additional limited business in the fall, largely handled electronically.

Dr. Addy added that we now have a critical mass of Associate members on the graduate faculty. Associate members are eligible to serve on both Graduate Council and additionally on the committees.

We solicited feedback from Graduate directors on the Travel Grant Program for which only Doctoral and MFA students are currently eligible to apply. Funds in support of this program are not going to be increased. The key question of whether this program should be available to Master's degree students was posed. Fewer than half of the 69 Graduate Directors representing 140 programs responded. In short, we will not be modifying the criteria for this funding opportunity. We appear to be at an appropriate limit for funding students who qualify within the limited resources that support the program.

Jessica Elfenbein, former Senior Associate Dean of the Graduate School, sadly and unexpectedly lost her father, Richard Elfenbein, recently due to kidney cancer. You may Google his obituary.

6. Report of the Graduate Student Association Representative (Mark VanDriel)

Mr. VanDriel reported that the Graduate Student Association elections are forthcoming but he does not yet know the date or who the candidates are. Every position is open to competition. This election will be heated for the first time in years. Historically, student turn out to vote has been extremely low. It was suggested that an email blast be sent through the Graduate School social media to advertise and to

hopefully boost student turnout.

7. **Report of the Academic Policy and Practices Committee** (Dirk den Ouden)

No report at this time.

8. **Report of the 500/600 Level Courses, Distance Education and Special Courses**
(Murray Mitchell)

A listing of 500/600 Level Courses is presented to Council for informational purposes only.

EDEX 646 (3) Advanced Procedures for Assessment in Early Childhood Special Education. (New Course Proposal; Fall 2017).

Distance Education Delivery Courses

RHAB 701 (3) Rehabilitation Counseling Practice I (Designator change to RCON, number change to 601; addition of distributed learning) (Fall 2018).

RHAB 705 (3) Culture and Disability (Designator change to RCON, number change to 605; addition of distributed learning) (Fall 2018)

RETL 551 (3) Advanced Retail Business Planning (Fall 2018)

Special Topics Course Proposals

BADM 790 (3) Capstone HR Consulting Project (Fall 2017)

BADM 790 (3) Recruitment (Fall 2017)

CRJU 591 (3) Adolescent Mentoring (Fall 2017)

CSCE 790 (3) Quantum Computation and Information (Fall 2017)

ENHS 793 (3) Societal and Cultural Issues in Science and Technology (Summer 2017)

ENVR 501 (3) Global Food Politics (Fall 2017)

HSPM 791 (3) Taiwan's Health System in Transition (Summer 2017)

MUSC 726 (3) Bernstein (Fall 2017)

SOWK 768 (3) Crisis Intervention (Summer 2017)

SOWK 768 (3) Professional Writing (Summer 2017)

SPAN 881 (3) Film Theory, Aesthetics, and Latin American Cinema (Fall 2017)

THEA 599 (3) Voice & Movement: Practice in Performance (Fall 2017).

9. **Associate Graduate Faculty Nominations** (Murray Mitchell)

The following nominations were submitted and the published criteria were confirmed by Dr. Mitchell. He presents the following nominations for a vote of support by the Graduate Council:

Name: Troy Herter, PhD

Program: Exercise Science

Term: Spring 2017 – Spring 2023

Name: Christopher Bogiages, PhD
Program: Instruction and Teacher Education
Term: Spring 2017 – Spring 2023

Name: Kerry McIver, PhD
Program: Exercise Science
Term: Summer 2017 – Summer 2023

All nominations received unanimous support by the Graduate Council.

10. Fellowships and Scholarships Committee (Scott White)

Dr. Scott White reported that they have just completed the third and final round of Presidential Fellowship nominations. They have approximately 20 offers out right now. As of last Friday, they have 5 acceptances. A waitlist has been established ranked from number 1 to 11. If any of the initial Presidential Fellow offers decline, they will move down the waitlist to replace the refusals. Mr. Wright Culpepper is currently notifying the declined nominees now. The Committee is now looking at approximately 50 applicants for the Trustee and Recruiting fellowships. They will be wrapping that up prior to the Discover USC day.

11. Report of Science, Math, and Related Professional Programs Committee (David Tedeschi)

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/gradagenda/?id=21>

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.”

- **HSPM 798 (3) Public Health Residency, Public Health, Change to Existing Course: Fall 2018**

This proposal was unanimously approved by Graduate Council.

12. Report of the Humanities, Social Sciences, Education, and Related Professional Programs Committee (Drucilla Barker)

Dr. Mitchell presented the courses for consideration by the Graduate Council for Dr. Barker, who was absent. 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/gradagenda/?id=21>

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- **EDEX 760** (3) Secondary Transition Assessment, Planning and Program Development, Education, NCP: Fall 2017
- **EDEX 761** (3) Promoting Student Outcomes Through Collaboration, Education, NCP: Fall 2017
- **EDLP Major/Degree Program**, PhD in Education Administration, Education, Change Program: Fall 2018
- **EDRM 889** (3) Advanced Principles and Applications of Latent Variable Modeling, Education, NCP: Fall 2017
- **EDST Major/Degree Program**, PhD in Educational Psychology and Research, Education, Change Program: Fall 2017
- **ENGL Major/Degree Program**, Doctor of Philosophy in English with an Emphasis in English and American Literature, Arts and Sciences, Change Program: Fall 2018.
- **ENGL Major/Degree Program**, Doctor of Philosophy in English with an Emphasis in Composition and Rhetoric, Arts and Sciences, Change Program: Fall 2018.
- **THEA 775** (3) Advanced Methods in Drama Education, Arts and Sciences, NCP: Fall 2017

All proposals were unanimously approved by Graduate Council.

13. Report of the Grievances, Appeals and Petitions Committee (Maryah Fram)

No report at this time.

14. Other Committee Reports

No report at this time.

15. Old Business

No report at this time.

16. New Business

Dr. Mitchell presented a few charges to the Graduate Council that will in turn be handed over to the Academic Policy and Practices Committee.

Charge 1:

Provide clarification to what qualifies as a sufficient distinction between expectations for graduate credit versus undergraduate credit in 500 and 600 level classes.

ACAF 2.03 deals with the creation and the revision of academic courses. As an ex-officio

member for 500 and 600 level classes, and as a representative of the Graduate School, his responsibility is to ensure that the requirements of students who take the course for graduate credit are sufficiently different from the students who take the course for undergraduate credit. The question is what qualifies as sufficient clarification/distinction. If anyone has any strong feelings, the Academic Policy and Practices Committee would like your input.

Charge 2:

When students are enrolled in 500 or 600 level classes for graduate credit, how late in the semester may they change their mind to modify their enrollment either up or down?

Proposal: Last day to withdraw without receiving a WF—published date of mid-semester.

On occasion, advanced undergraduate students enrolled in a 500 or 600 level course, enroll for graduate credit. For various reasons by the end of the semester, students decide that they want undergraduate credit for the course instead of graduate credit. We are getting more and more requests to revert to getting only undergraduate credit instead of graduate credit. We need some guidance in how to handle these requests that are arriving late in the semester. Should they stay the course, take an F, or withdraw? This would apply to students enrolled in 500 or 600 level classes. Any guidance would be appreciated by the Academic Policy and Practices Committee.

Charge 3:

How many hours of Accelerated Plan hours should a student be allowed to take?

Proposal: Retain at 12 hours.

At present, accelerated plan students can only enroll in 12 hours. More students are coming in with a year or more of undergraduate credit due to advanced placement testing in high school. We have received an occasional request to exceed 12 hours limit as students look to take extra courses for graduate credit. Some programs may use the accelerated credits as a recruiting tool. These students can use these credits as transfer credits toward their graduate degree here at UofSC but not toward their cumulative graduate GPA. Should the maximum number be left at 12 hours? Thoughts and guidance in advance is appreciated.

17. Good of the Order

Dr. Mitchell reminded the members of the Graduate Council and guests to please sign in on the Attendance roster for proper documentation.

18. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05p.m.

Murray Mitchell, Secretary

CC:

Harris Pastides, President

Joan Gabel, 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

Andrew Graves, Office of the Registrar