

**GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, November 20, 2024, 2:00 p.m. STV 401a**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by Gavin Weiser, Interim Director of Graduate Studies.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Membership/Student

Development Committee: Duleep Delpchitre, Denise Hammer, Anna Smith, Jamie Mahurin Smith, John Tovar

Curriculum Committee: Jennifer Barnes, Beth MacDonald, Eric Peterson, Lily Thompson

Research Committee: Kevin Meyer

Equity, Diversity and

Inclusion Committee: Greg Braswell, Miranda Lin, Jessica Sullivan

Graduate Students: Ishmael Neequaye, Alexis Quick

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Membership/Student

Development Committee: Qi Zhang

Curriculum Committee: Mary Dyck, Stella Liao

Research Committee: Shawn Hitchcock, Chang Su-Russell

Equity, Diversity and

Inclusion Committee: Mona Bahl, Claire Lieberman, H. Sally Xie

Graduate Student: Alina Niftulaeva

Also present: Craig McLauchlan, Associate Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies; Mindy Kinney, Assistant Director of Graduate School; Kim Shennett, Graduate School

**Approval of Minutes**

Denise Hammer moved to approve minutes of October 23, 2024. Beth MacDonald seconded. Motion passed.

**Administrative report**

- a. Graduate Admissions
  - i. Admission numbers are currently looking fine.
  - ii. Many programs have moved to fall only admissions.
  - iii. There were 7,000 admission applications started for fall 24 term but never submitted. Emma Kopko, Assistant Director in the Graduate School, will email applicants to encourage them to submit their application for the spring or a future term.
- b. Graduate Coordinator lunches
  - i. Wrapped for the semester. Good conversations centered around EDF professional development opportunities.
  - ii. Changes in GPA calculations particularly for international students, driven by Office of International Engagement.
  - iii. Lunches will resume in the spring. Dates to be determined.

- c. Graduate School Professional Development Sessions
  - i. For graduate faculty and graduate coordinators. In coordination with Jennifer Friberg and David Giovagnoli of the Center for Integrated Professional Development.
  - ii. Four offerings included in tentative schedule for spring – working on reserving spaces.
    - 1. Graduate practicums 1/29 3pm
      - a. How to support Off-campus practicums involving Educational Administration, Social Work, Applied Community and Economic Development programs plus a few others.
    - 2. Thesis/Dissertation Process – 2/26 3 pm
      - a. Nuances of forms and processes.
      - b. How depts/schools managing these on-campus.
    - 3. OIE Oriented Session – 3/19 3pm
    - 4. Holistic Admissions – 4/16 3pm
      - a. Ideology around how we run admissions in Graduate School.
- d. Dissertation Completion Grant Winners Announced
  - i. Twelve applications submitted. Six are being funded.
  - ii. Most are receiving assistance requested.
  - iii. Orientation November 19<sup>th</sup> regarding how to seek reimbursement.
  - iv. Application open for spring 2025 session. Encourage students to apply.
- e. Assistance from Registrar to move 300-level swing courses to 400-level
  - i. Thank you to Registrar's staff for assistance in migrating remaining 300-level swing courses to 400-level by working beyond arduous Curriculum Forms system.
  - ii. All 300-level courses will be undergraduate only when migration is completed.
  - iii. Eric Peterson thanked Gavin for coordinating the project.
- f. Graduate Progress Reports
  - i. Being developed in coordination with Registrar's Office.
  - ii. Have never had them at graduate level.
  - iii. Working on a test run.
  - iv. Undergraduate and graduate are not same metrics. Figuring out metrics for graduate education. When drafts available, will provide them to Council to review.
  - v. Goal is to disseminate reports to each program on a regular basis, so advisors know their students' status in the program.
- g. Doctoral Recognition Brunch – 12-13
  - i. Mindy Kinney coordinating this event.
  - ii. Excited to honor doctoral students' accomplishments.
- h. Tentative Dates for Spring Council Meetings Announced
  - i. 2pm on: February 19, 2025 – March 26, 2025 – April 23, 2025
  - ii. Gavin directed members to contact them, or Kim Shennett, if scheduling conflicts. If vast majority have conflicts, we will look at different dates.

### **Committee Reports**

- a. Membership/Student Development
  - i. John Tovar, committee chair, stated committee reviewed Lela Winegarner scholarship applications. All well qualified applicants. Winners listed on agenda.
- b. Curriculum
  - i. Lily Thompson, committee chair, summarized November graduate curriculum committee report and Council accepted it.

- c. Research
  - i. Kevin Meyer, stated there was a consensus among committee members regarding winners of the Ora Bretal Scholarship and Fisher Thesis Competition.
  - ii. Gavin thanked the phenomenal chairs of the students' thesis committees for their advisory role in the thesis completion process.
- d. Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
  - i. Greg Braswell, committee chair, stated there were over 20 applications for the EDI scholarship. List of winners on agenda.
  - ii. Gavin, Byron Craig, provost office, and Greg Braswell, thought it would be a good idea to have a member of this committee serve as a representative on the University's Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Counsel.
  - iii. Gavin thanked Miranda Lin for agreeing to be the representative.
- e. Questions/concerns
  - i. Anna Smith inquired if there is a workload or financial model to compensate faculty for hours worked serving on Thesis/dissertation committees, independent study projects, etc. No compensation in TCH. It is not sustainable.
  - ii. Several members mentioned:
    - 1. course releases (often cannot award them – need faculty to teach courses.)
    - 2. merit pay
    - 3. these are not recognized in any university documents
  - iii. Gavin asked Anna if she wanted to lead a sub-committee to research how other institutions handle compensation along with what units on-campus are doing.
    - 1. Jessica Sullivan indicated her interest in serving on the committee. Some collection of data had been completed in Nursing.

#### **Old Business**

- a. None

#### **New Business**

- a. None

#### **Adjournment**

- a. Eric Peterson moved to adjourn the meeting; Greg Braswell seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

## **GRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT**

Submitted to the Graduate Council November 20, 2024. This report only covers program proposal information. For complete curriculum proposal information, including graduate course approvals, please see the University's Curriculum Proposal site: [registrar.ilstu.edu/curriculumforms/](http://registrar.ilstu.edu/curriculumforms/)

#### **FOR INFORMATION**

## **REVISE PROGRAMS**

*Sequences:*

### **ACC**

**Integrated Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Master of Professional Accountancy**

<https://registrarforms.illinoisstate.edu/CurriculumForms/GradReviseProgramView.aspx?ID=456>

### **MUS**

**M.M. String Pedagogy**

<https://registrarforms.illinoisstate.edu/CurriculumForms/GradReviseProgramView.aspx?ID=465>

## **DELETE PROGRAM**

*Certificate:*

### **ACC**

**IS Audit and Control Specialist Graduate Certificate**

<https://registrarforms.illinoisstate.edu/CurriculumForms/GradDeleteProgramView.aspx?ID=38>