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**Graduate Studies Council  
REVISED Minutes of 28 September 2023**

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Graduate Studies Council was called to order at 3 p.m. on 28 September 2023 in Walwood Hall Room 111W by Marcellis Zondag, chair.

**Members Present:** Upul Attanayake, Louann Bierlein Palmer, Christine Byrd-Jacobs, Carrie Cumming, Lisa DeChano-Cook, Jennifer Fiore, Wanda Hadley (substitute for Regina Garza Mitchell), Lori Gray, Lei Meng (substitute for Chansheng He), Cindy Linn, Jessyca Olvera, Dianna Sachs, Marcellis Zondag

**Member Absent:** Julie Apker

**Ex Officio:** Paul Pancella

**Guest(s):** Malia Roberts, Interim Senior Director, Graduate College Enrollment; David Szabla, Interim Chairperson Education, Department of Educational Leadership, Research & Technology

**Quorum**

A quorum was present with 14 members in attendance, of the 8 needed to establish quorum.

**Agenda**

**[MOTION]** It was moved by Sachs, seconded by Olvera, to accept the agenda, with the modification that Curriculum Proposals Item 9a move up early in the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes**

**[MOTION]** It was moved by Cumming, and seconded by Gray, to approve the 20 April 2023 minutes. The motion passed with 4 abstentions.

**Graduate Studies Council 2023-24 Charges**

Pancella reviewed the charges on behalf of President Summy

**New Business**

Szabla presented the Graduate Certificate in Organizational Change Leadership proposal.

**[MOTION]** It was moved by Byrd-Jacobs, and seconded by Lin, to accept the proposal. The motion carried unanimously.

The proposal Master of Science in Engineering-Computer Engineering (Accelerated) was deemed not ready for review by GSC and was removed from the agenda.

**Reports of Officers**

Chair Zondag shared information on the meeting with the Undergraduate Studies Council chair, in that there are several issues that both councils will need to address together this year, and for which a joint subcommittee might be formed.

Ex Officio Pancella did not provide a report.

**Election of Officer**

Ex Officio Pancella sought volunteers for the vacant Vice Chair position. No one volunteered. This item was postponed to a future meeting.

**Reports of University Representatives**

Byrd-Jacobs reported on graduate enrollment (which is up 7.2%), and several other items of interest.

### **New Business**

Bierlein Palmer provided an overview and addressed questions regarding Using Most Recent Grade for Repeated Graduate Courses. One revision was discussed and will be included in a version to be considered at the November GSC meeting.

Cumming provided an overview and addressed questions regarding Extending Time to Drop and/or Withdraw from Classes.

**[MOTION]** It was moved by Zondag, and seconded by Olvera, to accept the proposal. The motion carried, with 1 abstention.

Byrd Jacobs provided an overview and addressed questions regarding Dual Admission Undergraduate/Graduate Admissions.

**[MOTION]** It was moved by Olvera, and seconded by Zondag, to accept the proposal. The motion carried, with 1 abstention.

### **Unfinished Business**

None.

### **Announcements**

Fiore presented the issue of the recent Memorandum of Action change which requires all existing graduate program concentrations, at the time any future revisions to them might occur to either be turned into a program or embedded within the overall major as a track. There were concerns from fellow faculty members. Bierlein Palmer voiced concern with this new change as to why it was being done, and how is it benefiting graduate students within those programs in which things are working well. Further discussion regarding this issue is likely at future meetings.

### **Adjournment**

**[MOTION]** It was moved by Olvera, seconded by Zondag, to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The Graduate Studies Council will next meet on 26 October 2023 at 3 p.m. via Webex.

### **Approval**

Submitted by Louann Bierlein Palmer, Secretary

Minutes approved on 26 October 2023.