

**Graduate Studies Council
Minutes of 16 November 2023**

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Graduate Studies Council was called to order at 3:02 p.m. on 16 November 2023 in Walwood Hall Room 111W by Marcellis Zondag, chair.

Members Present: Upul Attanayake, Christine Byrd-Jacobs, Carrie Cumming, Lisa DeChano-Cook, Jennifer Fiore, Regina Garza Mitchell, Chansheng He, Cindy Linn, Jessyca Olvera, Dianna Sachs, Marcellis Zondag

Member Absent: Louann Bierlein Palmer, Lori Gray

Ex Officio: Paul Pancella

Guest(s): Jason DeGeorge, College of Aviation, Angel Gullon-Rivera, Family and Consumer Sciences, Anna Yelick, School of Social Work

Quorum

A quorum was present with 12 members in attendance, of the eight needed to establish quorum.

Attanayake joined the meeting at 3:12 p.m.

Agenda

[MOTION] It was moved by Garza-Mitchell, seconded by Fiore, to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by Olvera, seconded by Linn, to approve the 26 October 2023 minutes. With one abstention, the motion carried.

New Business

Conversion Proposals:

1. Counselor Education: Clinical Mental Health Counseling
2. Counselor Education: Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling
3. Counselor Education: Rehabilitation Counseling
4. Counselor Education: School Counseling
5. Educational Leadership: Educational and Global Leadership

[MOTION] It was moved by Pancella, seconded by Garza Mitchell, to approve all five conversion proposals. The motion carried.

Curriculum Proposals:

1. Aviation Administration Graduate Certificate – DeGeorge
[MOTION] It was moved by Olvera, seconded by Pancella, to approve the Aviation Administration Graduate Certificate. The motion carried unanimously.
2. Blindness and Low Vision Studies VI Certificate
The proposal as written needs clarification. Clarification is requested prior to the next meeting. Chair Zondag will contact proposal originator. Proposal review will continue at the next GSC meeting.
[MOTION] It was moved by Linn, seconded by Byrd-Jacobs, to vote on the Blindness and Low Vision Studies VI Certificate proposal at the next GSC meeting.
3. Master of Arts in Rehabilitation Counseling/Teaching
The proposal as written needs clarification. Clarification is requested prior to the next meeting. Chair Zondag will contact proposal originator. Proposal review will continue at the next GSC meeting.

[MOTION] It was moved by Garza-Mitchell, seconded by Linn, to vote on the Master of Arts in Rehabilitation Counseling/Teaching proposal at the next GSC meeting.

4. Master of Arts in Early Childhood Development – Gullon-Rivera

[MOTION] It was moved by Linn, seconded by Pancella, to approve the Master of Arts in Early Childhood Development proposal. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Child Welfare Graduate Certificate Program – Yelick

[MOTION] It was moved by Garza-Mitchell, seconded by Linn, to approve the Child Welfare Graduate Certificate Program proposal. The motion carried unanimously

Reports of Officers

Chair Zondag addressed council charges.

Ex Officio Pancella reminded GSC that proposals cannot be approved conditionally, with the exception of minor administrative changes that are addressed by the curriculum manager.

Reports of University Representatives

Byrd-Jacobs reported on the following:

1. Graduate College held Veteran's Day breakfast for students who have veteran status. Graduate WMU students include 9 enrolled active-duty, 59 veterans, 12 military guard/reserve, and 35 military spouses.
2. There were 26 applications for Graduate Student Research Grant, 17 were funded.
3. There were 50 applications for Graduate Student Travel Grant, 35 were funded.
4. The Graduate College is collaborating with University Libraries and Research and Innovation to hold a week-long event celebrating graduate research in 4-11 April 2024.
5. Graduate College is seeking a faculty fellow to support graduate student professional development.
6. Graduate College has a vacancy in graduate admissions.

DeChano-Cook reminded GSC members, except for the council chair, not to approve or comment on proposals in Curriculog.

Olvera reported that the Graduate Student Association (GSA) is currently on hiatus. Graduate student ambassadors, through the Graduate College, have held focus groups to solicit feedback from graduate students on the future role of GSA. Open elections for GSA president and vice-president will be held in spring 2024.

Unfinished Business

None.

Announcements

Cumming reported that Undergraduate Studies Council approved Memorandum of Action 23/02 Drop/Withdrawal Extension, previously approved by GSC.

Adjournment

[MOTION] It was moved by DeChano-Cook, seconded by Pancella, to adjourn the meeting at 4:07 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The Graduate Studies Council will next meet on 7 December 2023 at 3 p.m. via Webex videoconferencing.

Approval

Submitted by Dianna Sachs, Secretary

Minutes approved on 25 January 2024.