

Graduate Studies Council

Minutes of 23 March 2023

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Graduate Studies Council was called to order at 3:05 p.m. on 23 March 2023 via Webex videoconferencing by Dawn Anderson, chair.

Members in Attendance: Dawn Anderson, Julie Apker, Upul Attanayake, Louann Bierlein Palmer, Christine Byrd-Jacobs, Carrie Cumming, Jennifer Fiore, Regina Garza Mitchell, Dianna Sachs, Nicolas Witschi, Marcellis Zondag

Members Absent: James Palmitessa **Advisory Members Present:** Edwin Martini **Ex Officio:** William Rantz

Guests: Katie Easley, Director, Student Success Services; Malia Roberts, Associate Director Graduate Enrollment Services

Quorum

A quorum was present.

Acceptance of the Agenda

An amendment was made to postpone all agenda items with the exception of subcommittee work to the April meeting.

[MOTION] It was moved by Sachs, seconded by Garza Mitchell, to accept the agenda as amended. The motion carried.

Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by Bierlein Palmer, seconded by Fiore, to approve the 26 January 2023 minutes, as revised to fix one member's name. The motion carried.

Reports of Officers

Chair Anderson reported on the meeting with the Faculty Senate Executive Board regarding the GSC Memorandum of Action (MOA) related to credits for doctoral and specialist programs, which the Faculty Senate Executive Board passed. During that meeting, the Faculty Senate Executive Board raised curriculum process issues. Chair Anderson provided updates.

Ex Officio Rantz did not provide a report.

Reports of University Representatives

Byrd-Jacobs reported that the Graduate Student Association (GSA) was recently put on hiatus for the remainder of this year, while a committee reviews best practices for the association. There will be no GSA representatives on Faculty Senate councils during this time. The graduate finance committee will continue to distribute various graduate student funds. Byrd-Jacobs noted upcoming events for graduate student appreciation week and the graduate awards event, which will be held on 17 April 2023 at the Fetzer Center.

Martini and Easley provided an overview of the recently updated Student Success Hub, noting what forms/aspects remained the same, and which are new aspects. Input was offered.

Unfinished Business

There were 12 student recommendations for the All-University Graduate Teaching Effectiveness Award and seven student recommendations for the All-University Graduate Research and Creative Scholars Award.

New Business

None.

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

[MOTION] It was moved by Rantz, seconded by Zondag, to adjourn the meeting at 4:10 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The Graduate Studies Council will meet next on 20 April 2023 at 3 p.m. virtually via Webex.

Approval

Submitted by Louann Bierlein Palmer, Secretary

Minutes approved on 20 March 2023.