

**Graduate Studies Council**

Minutes of 18 April 2024

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Graduate Studies Council was called to order at 3:03 p.m. on 18 April 2024 via Webex teleconferencing by Marcellis Zondag, chair.

**Members Present:** Upul Attanayake, Christine Byrd-Jacobs, Jennifer Fiore, Wanda Hadley (substitute for Regina Garza Mitchell), Chansheng He, Kristen Hodge, Cindy Linn, Jill Rowe (substitute for Lori Gray), Dianna Sachs, Tova Sanders (substitute for Louann Bierlein-Palmer), Leslie Solares, Marcellis Zondag

**Members Absent:** Carrie Cumming, Lisa DeChano-Cook

**Ex Officio:** Paul Pancella

**Guests:** Linda Borish, Chair, History; Malia Roberts, Graduate College

**Quorum**

A quorum was present with 13 members in attendance of the eight needed to establish quorum.

**Agenda**

**[MOTION]** It was moved by Sanders, seconded by Pancella, to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes**

**[MOTION]** It was moved by Attanayake, seconded by Pancella, to approve the 28 March 2024 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

**New Business**

Borish presented proposal Master of Arts in History: Public History (Accelerated).

**[MOTION]** It was moved by Byrd-Jacobs, seconded by Attanayake, to accept Master of Arts in History: Public History (Accelerated) Degree Program. The motion carried unanimously.

**[MOTION]** It was moved by Pancella, seconded by Sanders, to elect Zondag as chair, Fiore as vice chair, and Bierlein-Palmer as secretary for 2024-25. The motion carried unanimously.

**[MOTION]** It was moved by Pancella, seconded by Attanayake, to hold 2024-25 GSC meetings in person and virtually on alternate months beginning with the first meeting in September 2024 to be held in person in the Graduate College. The motion carried unanimously.

**[MOTION]** It was moved by Byrd-Jacobs, seconded by Hodge, to cancel GSC May 2024 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

**Reports of Officers**

Chair Zondag reported that he is continuing work on GSC end-of-year report.

Ex Officio Pancella did not provide a report.

**Reports of University Representatives**

Byrd-Jacobs reported on the following:

1. Research, Innovation, and Creative Scholarship Poster Day was held with 40 graduate students presenting, 20 received awards.
2. The All-University Award Ceremony will be held on 24 April, from 5 to 7 p.m., at the Fetzer Center. This ceremony recognizes exceptional graduate students in the areas of teaching and research, and is the highest award given by the university.
3. There were various events held for the Graduate Student Appreciation Week.
4. During finals week, there will be treats in the Graduate Student Commons in Waldo Library.

- Also hosting will be the Graduate Student Association
5. Graduate College is awarding marketing grants for five graduate programs.
  6. Responses from 567 students were collected on the survey of graduate students about their experiences at WMU. Information regarding the survey results will be shared in the fall.

**Unfinished Business**

None.

**Announcements**

None.

**Adjournment**

**[MOTION]** It was moved by Pancella, seconded by Sanders, to adjourn the meeting at 3:28p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The Graduate Studies Council next meeting date will be determined over the summer.

**Approval**

Submitted by Dianna Sachs, Secretary

Minutes approved on 26 September 2024.