

University Graduate Council Minutes

Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at 3:15pm

Meeting held via Zoom.

Members Present: Drs. Manu Gupta, Jill Bettinger, Molly Bristol, LaMont Cannon, Nicole Lee, Denia Lee-Hing, Oonagh Loughran, Karla Mossi, Mary Beth Reed, Jennifer Rhee, Jo Robins, Oliver Speck, Kamden Strunk, Stephen Vitiello, Ms. Teri Dunnivant, Ms. Barbara Judy, Dr. Joyce Lloyd, and Dr. Jeffery Wilson

Guest: Dawn Fields Crichlow, Sarah Steele, and Jennifer Tennison

- I. The April 2023 UGC minutes were approved electronically.
- II. Old Business
None.
- III. Action Items

College of Engineering – APPROVED

Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering

Course Revision

- EGRE 553 : Industrial Automation
 - Update to lecture and laboratory hours

College of Health Professions – APPROVED

Department of Patient Counseling

Concentration Closure

- MS-PAC-SCPE : Patient Counseling, Master of Science (M.S.) with a concentration in supervisory clinical pastoral education

School of Education – ALL APPROVED

Department of Educational Leadership

Temporary Suspension of Admissions into a Concentration

- MED-ADL-HD : Adult Learning, Master of Education (M.Ed.) with a concentration in human resource development
- MED-ADL-INDT : Adult Learning, Master of Education (M.Ed.) with a concentration in instructional design and technology

Department of Teaching and Learning

Temporary Suspension of Admissions into a Certificate

- CPG-TEL : Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, Certificate in (Post-baccalaureate graduate certificate)

Temporary Suspension of Admissions into a Concentration

- MED-REA-TSOL : Reading, Master of Education (M.Ed.) with a concentration in teaching English to speakers of other languages

IV. Minor Items Administratively Approved by the Graduate School

College of Health Professions – APPROVED

Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences

Program Revision

- BS:MS MLS : Accelerated opportunities tab for medical laboratory sciences
 - Update to course number

School of Medicine – ALL APPROVED

Department of Biostatistics

Course Revisions

- BIOS 631 : Mixed Models and Longitudinal Data Analysis
 - Update to course modality and prerequisites
- BIOS 632 : Multivariate Analysis
 - Update to prerequisites
- BIOS 660 : Sequential Analysis and Advanced Design and Analysis of Clinical Trials
 - Update to prerequisites
- BIOS 667 : Statistical Learning and Data Mining
 - Update to course modality and prerequisites
- BIOS 668 : Statistical Methods for High-throughput Genomic Data II
 - Update to course modality and prerequisites

Department of Human & Molecular Genetics

Program Revision

- MS-GCO : Genetic Counseling, Master of Science (M.S.)
 - Update to the admissions deadline

School of Nursing – APPROVED

Nursing-Dean's Office

Course Revision

- NURS 534 : Community-based Care Coordination
 - Removing course restriction and allowing permission of the instructor

V. Committee Reports

A. Committee on Admissions and Academic Standards

No report.

B. Committee on Internal Review

No report.

VI. New Business

Graduate School Policies Update

Historical Repeat – Graduate Students

- The Graduate School has been working with the Provost Office and Records Registration to detail the implementation process for graduate students under the proposed historical repeat policy.
- The policy will be placed in the graduate level academic regulations section of the bulletin.
 - Aiming for a fall 2023 implementation and inclusion in academic regulations.
 - Additional language may need to be added to program pages in CIM/CAT the next bulletin.
 - Details regarding this are still being worked on.

- Some questions that arose from the Academic Regulations Committee:
 - Are all populations that fall under this policy aware of it?
 - How will this policy be used equitably for all graduate students?
 - Will students in an accelerated program be allowed to utilize this policy?
 - Some members of the UGC indicated that programs are allowing accelerated students to repeat course work already.

Nondegree-seeking Graduate Student

- The proposed policy would allow a program to apply a maximum of 12-credits earned as a nondegree-seeking student towards a degree.
- The Academic Regulations Committee approved of this proposed policy.

Chat GPT and Course Hero

Is the university developing any policies or regulations to address the usage of such software by students as it has become a concern across higher education as this could be seen as a student conduct and academic integrity violation. The Graduate School will be reaching out to Student Conduct and Academic Integrity to see if the university has begun any efforts to address these concerns.

VII. Chair's Report

Dean Gupta thanks everyone for all their work this year and a special thank you to Dawn Fields Crichlow who has been working with the Academic Regulations Committee to finalize the proposed graduate policies.

The Graduate School has begun the process of putting together a taskforce to address conflict of interest between graduate students and mentors. This taskforce will be comprised of individuals from around the university with the charge to establish resources for these groups. Many grants now require training modules to address this. At VCU, we have the Office of the Ombudsperson to also aid in these types of

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05pm.