

**PRESENT:** Brad Jones, Dwayne Godwin, Jennifer Rogers, Jeff Katula, Adam Hall, Grey Ballard, Fred Salsbury, Mark Ferris, Ravi Singh, Elizabeth Jensen, Tracy Criswell, Lucy McGowan

**ABSENT:** Leslie Poole, Christian Waugh

**GUESTS:** Tim Howard

Brad Jones chaired the first meeting of the Graduate Council for 2022-2023. The meeting was held on Tuesday, October 11, at 3:30 pm at the Graduate School Brookstown Campus, Room 301C.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**1. 4-5-2022 Graduate Council Minutes**

The April 5, 2022 Graduate Council Minutes were unanimously approved pending additions of those Graduate Council members in attendance.

**2. GSA Report (GSA co-Chairs Brandon Eberl and Mackenzie Brown)**

Both GSA reps were unable to attend due to conference travel however they did provide the following updates:

The Reynolda and Bowman Gray campuses have recruited individuals to serve as Committee Chairs, establishing a leadership team that is working to push forward cross-campus and campus-specific initiatives/needs. GSA hosted its first cross-campus monthly meeting in early September with a turnout of > 60 graduate students. We are hoping to build off this involvement with our next meeting in early November, as well as a Graduate School Formal on Saturday, October 29th at Footnotes Coffee and Cocktails. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Dean Godwin and Dean Jones for the WFU Graduate School's financial support of this event, as well as the ongoing support from Dr. Rogers and Sarah Lafferty in the Graduate School.

Dean Godwin let the Council know that the (Biomedical Sciences) GSA expressed some concern with stipend levels [that were not keeping up with the cost of living]. This was taken into serious consideration and a set of solutions was compiled. The cost of education was adjusted, which allows PhD students to take out additional student loans. Additionally, all of the healthcare costs will be met in the coming year. Dean Godwin did relay that Bowman Gray stipends are higher than Virginia Tech or the Reynolda Campus and exceed the living wage (the Reynolda campus stipend levels go through the budget office).

**3. Committee Reports**

**A. Curriculum Committee (Leslie Poole, Chair)**

**1. Course Change Proposals**

Course Number	Course Name	Action
BMES 615	Advanced Commercialization of Biomedical Engineering Research	ADD
BMR 705/706	Biomedical Research Journal Club	ADD
BMSC 620	Roots of Health Inequity	CHANGE
COM 631	Communication, Terrorism and Hostage Negotiation	ADD
COM 646	Sport, Media and Communication	ADD
GENC 713	Prenatal Genetics	CHANGE
GENC 722	Basic Concepts in Cancer Genetic Counseling	CHANGE
GENC 780	Lab Rotation	ADD

GENC 781/782	Clinical Rotation	CHANGE
MPHY 771	Radiological Physics	CHANGE
MPHY 773	Radiation Therapy Physics	CHANGE
MPHY 774	Physics of Medical Imaging	CHANGE
MPHY 776	Medical Health Physics	CHANGE
PHI 682	Topics in Metaphysics	CHANGE
PHY 652	Physical Optics and Optical Design	CHANGE
PHY 661	Biophysics Seminar	CHANGE
PHY 663	Condensed Matter Seminar	CHANGE
PHY 765	Gravitational and Particle Theory Seminar	CHANGE
WGS 624	Queer Theologies	CHANGE

A motion was made to approve all course changes and additions. The motion was seconded and all changes and additions were unanimously approved.

**B. Credentials Committee (Grey Ballard, Chair)**

**1. Nominations for Graduate Faculty**

Name	Department/Graduate Program Affiliation
Arjun Chatterjee, MD	Internal Medicine/ SBES
Claudia Falcon, PhD	Mathematics
David Kline, PhD	Biostatistics and Data Science, THSS
Drew Kiraly, MD PhD	Physiology & Pharmacology, Psychiatry/ IPP, Neuroscience
Leandro Lichtenfelz, PhD	Mathematics
Michelle Mielke, PhD	Epidemiology & Prevention
Nicholas Kortessis, PhD	Biology
James R. Bateman, MD MPH	Neurology/ Neuroscience
Wei-chin Lee, PhD	Politics and International Affairs
Wencheng Li, MD PhD	Pathology/ Cancer Biology

A motion was made to approve all Graduate Faculty nominations. The motion was seconded and all nominations were unanimously approved.

**C. Policy Committee (Fred Salisbury, Chair)**

**1. Progress on Honor Code**

Fred Salisbury met with Dina Marty about the Honor Code and only minor edits were needed. The policy will come before the Council for approval in November.

**2. Veterans Leave Policy**

The Graduate Council will be reviewing Veterans Leave Policy options.

**3. Code of Conduct**

Jennifer Rogers has been part of a Code of Conduct working group called by Kami Chavis and Dina Marty last spring. The group includes representatives from all schools. The charge of the group was to explore the utility and possible benefits of having a university-wide code of conduct. The group is currently wrapping up their

work and preparing a list of recommendations to the Dean's Council. Dr. Rogers has expressed that Graduate Faculty are experts on graduate students and that the Graduate Faculty/School should still have jurisdiction over Graduate Student issues and that any substantial changes should go through the Graduate Council for review.

**4. Credit Hours**

The committee will be looking into a prospective definition of credit hour.

**D. Long Range Planning Committee**

The Long-Range Planning Committee is in need of new committee members. Going forward this committee might be useful for looking at places we can collaborate (i.e. Strategic Framework process).

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**1. Biomedical Science MS reorganization into separate MS degree programs (Tim Howard)**

Tim Howard, co-Program Director of the Biomedical Science Program gave a brief overview of the proposed reorganization of BMSC. The program began in 2015 with two different tracks. The Pre-Health track is geared towards students who would like to go on to medical or PA school or looking to boost their GPA. The Research Track being more tailored to students who want to go on to industry or a PhD program. In 2019 a program evaluation was conducted, which resulted in the recommendation that the two tracks should separate into two different programs (being that the two tracks are administered separately, are financially separate, and advising takes place separately). Andrew South will be the Pre-health Program Director (BMSC) and Tim Howard will be the (Biomedical)Research (BMR) Program Director. After approval from the Graduate Council the programs will move to advertising. This change will give students more attention, trajectory, and professionalism.

A motion was made to split the two tracks into two different programs. The motion was seconded. A vote was taken, and the change was approved unanimously.

**2. Change to MS in Physics Requirements \*will not require Graduate Faculty approval\***

Fred Salsbury gave a brief overview of the following Physics bulletin change:

Currently, the Bulletin says the master's in physics requires 3 hours of Phy 601 Physics seminar and 6 hours of thesis research.

We would like to change that to 1.5 hours of Phy 601 Physics seminar and 7.5 hours of thesis research.

The rationale is that Phy 601 was changed to 0.5 hrs several years ago and so 3 hrs of Phy 601 would require taking the course 6 times, which is not possible in a nominally 2-year program. 1.5 hrs would require taking the course 3 times which is our actual expectation. The 1.5hrs need to be added somewhere to maintain a 30hr requirement and adding it to thesis research would more accurately reflect the effort required to produce a master's thesis in physics.

A motion was made to approve the change. The motion was seconded. The change was unanimously approved.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**1. Bowman Gray Hooding Speaker**

Dean Godwin will be sending out a call for nominations.

Degrees will be conferred at the Hooding Ceremony again by President Wentz.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:07 pm.