

Present: Jennifer Rogers, Ron Von Burg, Patrick Pardy, Dixie Ross, Chaowei Zhu, Ravi Singh, Erik Brady, Jeff Katula, Adam Hall, Leslie Poole, Mark Ferris, Fred Salisbury, John Lukesh, Grey Ballard, Lucy D'Agostino McGowan, Brad Jones, Dwayne Godwin, Michelle Gillespie

The second meeting of the Graduate Council for 2022-2023 year was held Tuesday, November 8, at 3:30 pm at the Graduate School Brookstown Campus (Room 301C). The meeting was followed by a brief reception.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. 10-11-2022 Graduate Council Minutes

Motion to approve these minutes without changes was made and seconded.

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

No GSA representatives were present. A written report was submitted to Dean Jones indicating that the GSA is active and had a successful formal event.

3. Committee Reports

A. Curriculum Committee (Leslie Poole, Chair)

1. Course Change Proposals

Course Number	Course Name	Action
BMES 660	Biomedical Research Design	ADD
BMES 661	Advanced Commercialization of Biomedical Engineering Research	ADD
BMES 662	Cancer Engineering: Biology, Detection and Therapeutics	ADD
COM 670	Persuasion	CHANGE
CRM 718	Capstone Experience IV	ADD
DOC 717	Fundamentals of Editing	CHANGE
HNU 730	Advanced Hindi-Urdu I	ADD
HNY 731	Advanced Hindi-Urdu II	ADD
MPHY 776	Medical Health Physics	CHANGE
TBIO 701	Regenerative Medicine for Non-Scientists	ADD
TBIO 702	Introduction to Translational Medicine	ADD
TBIO 704	Introduction to cGMP Regulations	ADD
TBIO 711	Intro to Business Fundamentals	ADD
TBIO 731	FDA Case Studies	ADD
TBIO 732	Biotechnology Seminar	ADD
TBIO 794	Externship	ADD
TBIO 795/796	Capstone	ADD
TBIO 797/798	Research	ADD

Motion to approve these course changes with a second. The BMES are at the 600 level, which means that undergraduates are in the course -- for accreditation, the syllabus needs to specify what the additional work the graduate students would do. Amended motion – the approval will be pending BMES 660, BMES 661, and BMES 662 add a line each to their syllabus describing the additional graduate work needed. These changes are approved (pending the addition to 600-level syllabi).

B. Credentials Committee (Grey Ballard, Chair)

1. Nominations for Graduate Faculty

Name	Department/Graduate Program Affiliation
David Phillips, PhD	Interdisciplinary Humanities, Sustainability
Kip D. Zimmerman, PhD	Molecular Medicine/ MMTS, Molecular Genetics & Genomics

A motion was made to approve these two nominations. The motion was seconded and approved.

C. Policy Committee (Fred Salisbury, Chair)**1. Report from Associate Dean Jennifer Rogers on the Code of Conduct working group**

Twelve meetings were held between March 2022 and October 2022 to compare Codes of Conduct across schools. The group's task was to review the policies and write a summary of the review for the dean's council. There was disagreement on the committee whether similar language across the schools was necessary. Seven recommendations were proposed (1. Create a universal Non-Academic Code of Conduct; 2. Create a universal Academic Code of Conduct; 3. Defining procedures for appeals; 4. Create an Office to address for Non-Academic Issues; 5. Create an Office to address Academic Issues; 6. Create an Appellate Body for Non-Academic Issues; 7. Create an Appellate Body for Academic Issues). The members of the working group voted on each – ultimately the report is that there is no clear consensus, and rather a summary of the disparate opinions. Potential problem that is trying to be solved: disparate risk – considering students that are in more than one schools (like joint programs). Suggestion to see what our peer institutions do (Duke, Emory, etc) – do other schools share joint code of conducts for academic / non-academic issues. There is nothing to currently act on. Per our accreditation, we have faculty governances that determines whether something like this changes, so ultimately this would come back to this council, but likely not for some time.

OTHER BUSINESS**1. Physics Bulletin change**

This will be circulated.

Provost Gillespie gives an update on plans for the graduate school.

- **Priorities:**
 - Supporting Deans to be sure they can support their faculty, staff, and students
 - Strategic Framing
 - Finishing the first phase of the work (will be announced by President Wentz at the address on Nov 17)
 - All stakeholders are aligned on the importance of the teacher/scholar model and academic excellence
 - Student Information System: deliver integrated clean data to make better decisions for students
 - SACS evaluation 2025-2026
 - The University's Slavery, Race and Memory Project
- **5 themes: making inclusive excellence integral, building new/strengthening interdisciplinary connections, facilitating connections better (removing "barriers" or "realities"), strengthening**

scholarship / creative work / research resources and support, working harder to support and retain top faculty.

- Transition to single dean for the College for undergraduate and graduate schools. The decision reflects overwhelming faculty feedback in the listening session on the dean's search and the strategic framing discussions that graduate faculty, students, and programs need stronger support. The biomedical graduate school will remain under the current organization and governance relationship with the Arts and Sciences Graduate School.
 - What is the continued commitment to graduate education given this change:
 - This is intended to strengthen and support graduate education
 - President, Provost, faculty, etc are in strong support for the graduate programs
 - This is an attempt to remove administrative decisions and bureaucracy
 - What will happen to the graduate programs not housed in academic departments?
 - Sustainability, bioethics, liberal studies, etc. – these programs are excellent and will continue to be supported by the graduate school – they will not move into departments and will not be phased out. These interdisciplinary programs will continue and are part of the strategic framework.
 - This is not a merger – the new dean is taking over the leadership of two schools, the entities are still separate, two separate budgets, etc. They will gain the alignment of mission around teaching for **all** students and strengthening research and scholarship. The new dean will be able to lead synergies and collaborations and build new opportunities across both schools with this new vantage point and responsibility
 - In order for there to be a merger it would take a vote of all college and graduate faculty as well as Board of Trustees. This is very unlikely.
 - The next stage of the university needs to be strengthening the research and scholarship.
 - Faculty have asked about ways to develop systems to support graduate students more.
 - The new dean's evaluations will be based in part on building bridges between these schools and increase the scholarship. We elected to pause the dean's search, rewrite the prospectus to include this (joint leadership of college and graduate school), and will restart the search in several weeks. The expectation is still to start July 1.
 - It is anticipated that this new structure will result in greater attention to graduate student needs and will provide more support for faculty research and scholarship.
 - Adding a graduate student representative to the dean's search committee
 - The University of Virginia just did this – their new Dean of the College is also the Dean of Graduate School of Arts and Sciences – Emory is doing the same. Other schools already use this model too. So, there is precedent elsewhere.