



# The Graduate School

## UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

### GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

August 27, 2018

The Graduate Council met on Monday, August 27, 2018 at 2:00 P.M. on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Thomas Cooper Library in the Career Center.

Graduate Council members present: Dr. Maryah Fram, Chair; Drs. Suzannne Adlof, Nate Bell, Ron Benner, Matt Boylan, Bobby Brame, Jr., Cathy Brant, Joanna Casey, Maks Chruszcz, Rick Creswick, Jean Ellis, Hippokratis Kiaris, Jim Mensch, Spencer Platt, Tom Regan, and Clint Saidy, GSA Representative.

Graduate Council member absent: Drs. Konstantin Pollok and Sirivatch Shimpalee

Graduate School Representatives: Dr. Cheryl Addy, Dr. Murray Mitchell (Secretary), Dr. Heather Brandt, Dale Moore, and Wanda Barr

Provost Office Representative: Dr. Tena Crews

Guests: None

**NOTE: These minutes will become final on September 24, 2018 if not challenged.**

- 1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda** (Maryah Fram, Chair)  
The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. and the agenda was unanimously approved.
- 2. Approval of the [Minutes from May 14, 2018](http://app.gradschool.sc.edu/gradcouncil/minutes.asp).** Approved actions by Graduate Council become effective 30 days after posting. A copy is available on the Graduate School website at: <http://app.gradschool.sc.edu/gradcouncil/minutes.asp>
- 3. Report of the Chair** (Maryah Fram)  
No report.
- 4. Report of the Dean of Graduate School** (Cheryl Addy)  
Dr. Addy extended a welcome to both the continuing and new Graduate Council members. Introductions were made around the table.  
  
Dr. Addy reminded the Council of the Graduate School's Blueprint for Academic Excellence. This year, the planning discussions will focus on the goals in that document.

Student Services: Much of this goal is related to maintaining and improving our service delivery. We

are in the process of updating CollegeNet to include more functionality for student recruitment activities and student progression. The goal is to replace the current functions of GMS. As we go forward, we will be inviting a few graduate directors and staff coordinators to help us assess our “business rules” so that we are as efficient as possible in the new system. If anyone has a particular interest in this endeavor, please let her or Dr. Murray Mitchell know.

Academic enrichment and professional development: She’s very pleased that Dr. Heather Brandt has agreed to expand her efforts in the Graduate School. Based on response last year, there is a demand for expanding professional development offerings. We are also working with the Graduate Student Association (GSA) and hopefully with the Black Graduate Student Association as well—both to coordinate activities when appropriate and to hear the concerns and needs of the students as we plan future activities. She announced that since the Grace Jordan McFadden Professors Program is coming more under the auspices of the Graduate School that we will be supporting that initiative as well.

The Graduate School is looking at its’ communication and marketing material broadly from the perspective of potential students. We are also trying to address how we can make information more easily accessible to our current students, graduate faculty and others within our community. In our attempt to do this, there will be a Graduate School Extravaganza on Friday, August 31<sup>st</sup> at the Russell House from 9am to noon. In addition, there will be an Open House in the Graduate School’s new home in the Hipp Building next Friday, September 7th. We will also be announcing a fall meeting for graduate directors and program coordinators shortly. She will continue to work with offices across campus to elevate the visibility of graduate education and of the needs of our graduate students.

**5. Report of the Secretary of the Graduate Council (Murray Mitchell)**

Dr. Mitchell acknowledged the support of the Career Center for their willingness to work with us to provide this space for meetings of the Graduate Council. It is his hope this is a central location that is convenient for all who have Graduate business.

At our May meeting of the 2017-2018, we acknowledged the end of terms of service for several members and welcomed new members who were able to join us. There was one additional position for which he had not secured final approval that he asked for support by required vote: Spencer Platt (Educational Leadership and Policies) – Unanimous support by vote.

There are several committees that will have business before them. Each of these committees must have a Council member as chair. Other members of the committee may be either Council members, or, qualified graduate faculty elsewhere at the university. If anyone is interested in serving and/or chairing any of these committees, please feel free to send him an email and he will be in touch very soon. Committees include:

1. Academic Policy and Practices Committee (default chair is our vice chair: Tom Regan).
2. Fellowships and Scholarships Committee
3. Science, Math, and Related Professional Programs Committee (Rick Creswick?)
4. Humanities, Social Sciences, Education and Related Professional Programs Committee (Cathy Brant?)
5. Grievances, Appeals and Petitions Committee

We came across an issue late in the summer in regard to how students taking fewer than 6 hours if a GA; fewer than 9 hours if not a GA, and how students are billed for their health insurance. The issue appears to coincide with a change in the vendor providing health care. The problem for students was that the charges could not be added to the student's bill (helpful for financial aid purposes), and had, instead, to be paid 'out of pocket.' He reached out to Student Health and with the assistance of Deborah Weaver in that office and Libby Cross in the Graduate School, he believes they found a workable solution for most of the students impacted. There may remain a few who are still working through this issue.

In the process, he found yet another instance where the interests of Graduate Students remains, if not invisible, unrepresented by an advisory group making decisions with a substantive impact on the lives of graduate students. The quest for such representation continues.

The visibility of our own new location is challenging. Our building is often identified as the Close-Hipp building. We are in the Hipp side of the building which is only identified as such from the parking lot side of the building where there is no entrance. At the entrance on the street side of the building, the letters indicate the Close building. We are working on making the location of our new home more visible.

Regarding proposals Special Topics Courses, he has shared in the past that this process is problematic. He receives hard copies in campus mail, hand delivered variations, and emails embedded in questions about other items. Sometimes these are originals, occasionally they are duplicates that have arrived in another format, some with appropriate signatures and documentation, others with neither. With the assistance of Tena Crews and Geniese James, we are hoping to create an alternative submission process that will allow us to track submissions to see where it has 'stopped' along the way. His hope is that when we can identify signatory authority along the way, just as in APPS, that those signatures will indicate required pieces are attached before forwarding. If materials are not in order, they will be returned to sender. The process will then be slower for implementation rather than faster.

On a related note, remembering that Special Topics Course proposals are not intended to be a way around proposing a new course. Rather, it is an excellent mechanism to take advantage of a current event, the expertise of a visiting scholar, or an experimental offering of a possible addition to regular course offerings.

## 6. **Report on Professional Development** (Heather Brandt)

### **Scholarly Initiatives:**

A welcome reception was held on August 23 to recognize graduate students who are part of the Graduate School's scholarly initiatives. This includes Presidential Fellows, Bridge Humanities Corps, Graduate Civic Scholars, and Grace Jordan McFadden Professors Program.

- **Presidential Fellows**

The Presidential Fellowship program is the University of South Carolina's most prestigious university-wide award for promise of excellence at the graduate level. This program is unique among peer institutions for its reach across disciplines and focus on professional development and cultivating connections across degree programs. To date, 182 students from 38 academic

programs in nine colleges have participated. In 2018-2019, 64 Presidential Fellows from 35 academic programs in eight colleges will participate in the program, including nine new Fellows.

- **Bridge Humanities Corps**  
The Bridge Humanities Corps, in partnership with the College of Arts and Sciences and the Office of the Provost, aims to provide advanced doctoral students and newly minted PhDs with advanced training in humanities programming and professional development. Corps members are also responsible for teaching sections of the innovative Social Advocacy and Ethical Life course (SAEL 200) or Carolina Core equivalent requirement for undergraduates. In addition, Corps members receive pedagogical training and professional development programming. To date, 23 newly minted PhDs and ABDs from seven academic programs have participated. This is the third year of the Bridge Humanities Corps, and we have four newly minted PhDs and four ABD members.
- **Graduate Civic Scholars Program**  
The Graduate Civic Scholars Program is an innovative professional development opportunity for master's and doctoral students who are interested in community and public engagement and action-based research. The program provides opportunities for interdisciplinary research, involvement in social justice initiatives, and an enhanced understanding of the role of scholarship in addressing societal needs. To date, 45 students from 26 academic programs have participated. This is the fourth year of the program, and we have 12 Scholars representing five colleges. The program is co-directed by Dr. Lucy Ingram in health promotion, education, and behavior and Dr. Allison Marsh in history.
- **Grace Jordan McFadden Professors Program**  
The Grace Jordan McFadden Professors Program is an initiative that recruits and prepares underrepresented minorities to become college and university professors. The initiative aims to promote and increase diversity in the professoriate. This program is led by Dr. Johnnie McFadden and Mrs. Rhittie Gettone. At this time the Graduate School is providing support for the program and working to understand the transition into the Graduate School's scholarly initiatives.

Please feel free to contact Dr. Heather Brandt with any questions.

**#GRADprofdev Professional Development Programming:**

Professional development programming for fall 2018 is being finalized over the next two days and will be circulated to all graduate students and posted on Graduate School social media. Offerings in fall will include Shut Up and Write with the Writing Center, Start Smart with the Student Success Center, Writing Your Teaching Philosophy with the Center for Teaching Excellence, a webinar on using LinkedIn with the Career Center, and more. Contact Dr. Heather Brandt with any questions.

**CGS PhD Career Pathways:**

In fall 2018, we will survey graduate alumni from selected doctoral degree programs who obtained doctoral degrees between July 1-June 30 for 2002-2003, 2009-2010, and 2014-2015. The survey will go live in mid-September. We may be following up with participating departments for updated email information. Contact Dr. Heather Brandt with any questions.

**Graduate School Communication:**

We are in the process of employing a strategic plan for communication by the Graduate School. Currently, we are reviewing and editing the Graduate School website. Guidelines on communicating through listservs and other mechanisms by the Graduate School are forthcoming. Contact Dr. Heather Brandt with any questions.

7. **Report of the Graduate Student Association Representative** (Clint Saidy)

Mr. Saidy reported that the Graduate Student Association was thankful to Dean Addy and the Graduate School for the role they played in getting the health insurance subsidy doubled for the graduate assistants who have health insurance through USC. GSA is trying to be more visible on campus. They were invited to a few departments on campus to take part in their orientations to speak to students about GSA (Social Work and a department in Public Health). He hopes that this number will increase in the future semesters.

A “welcome back” event is planned for Thursday, 8/30/18, at 6pm at the Hickory Tavern. Everyone is welcomed to attend.

They are participating in the Graduate School Extravaganza on Friday, 8/31/18, in hopes of letting the graduate students know more about what GSA does.

The first president cabinet meeting will take place on Friday, 8/31/18 at 5pm in the Student Government office.

The GSA met with Steve Beckham, the UofSC’s lobbyist in Washington last week about taking a group of graduate students to Washington, DC, to learn more about the graduate students’ interest.

8. **Report of the Academic Policy and Practices Committee** (Tom Regan)

No report.

9. **Report of the 500/600 Level Courses, Distributed Learning and Special Topics Courses**  
(Murray Mitchell)

This report is presented to Council for informational purposes only; no action is necessary.

**500/600 Level Courses**

**ANTH 518** (3) Visual Cultures (Course Change Proposal: Fall 2019)

**ITEC 584** (3) Hospitality and Tourism Technology (Delete Course; Fall 2019)

**ELCT 533** (3) System Health Management (New Course Proposal: Fall 2018)

**EMCH 550** (3) Introduction to Nuclear Safeguards (New Course Proposal: Fall 2018)

**Distributed Learning Proposals**

**EDEX 643** (3) Social/Emotional Development and Guidance for Young Children with Developmental Delays (New Course Proposal: Spring 2018).

ELCT 891 (3) Engineering System Health Management (Fall 2018)

**Special Topics Courses**

**BADM 790** (3) Recruitment (Fall 2018)

**BADM 790** (3) Strategic Dealmaking (Summer 2018)

**BMEN 589** (3) Advanced Biomechanics (Fall 2018)

**BMEN 589** (3) Data Analytics for Biomedical Engineers (Fall 2018)

**BMEN 589** (3) Macro/Nanofluidics Lab-on-a-Chip (Fall 2018)

**CSCE 790** (3) Introduction to Software Analysis (Fall 2018)

**CSCE 790** (3) Machine Learning Systems (Fall 2018)

**CSCE 790** (3) Millimeter-wave Networking and Applications (Fall 2018)

**EDUC 632** (3) Relationship-Based Caregiving: Principles for Infant/Toddler Care (Summer 2018)

**EDUC 632** (1) Secondary Internship Seminar 1 (3 sections; Fall 2018)

**ELCT 559** (3) FEEDER: Power Generation, Operation, and Control (Fall 2018)

**ELCT 891** (3) Engineering System Health Management (Fall 2018)

**ELCT 891** (3) Nanostructured Magnetic Materials and Devices in Engineering (Fall 2018)

**ELCT 891** (3) Wide Bandgap Semiconductors for Radiation Detection (Fall 2018)

**EXSC 555** (3) Perceptual-Motor Development in Young Children (Fall 2018)

**EDFI 845** (3) Qualitative Case Study (Fall 2018)

**EDUC 632** (1 or 3) Essential Topics in Applied Behavior Analysis (Summer 2018)

**ENHS 793** (3) Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (Fall 2018)

**EXSC 555** (3) Principles of Neurorehabilitation (Fall 2018)

**ITEC 590** (3) Emerging Information Technology Trends (Fall 2018)

**JOUR 790** (3) Corporate Communication for Engineering Managers (3 sections; Fall 2018)

**JOUR 790** (3) Corporate Social Responsibility (Fall 2018)

**MATH 788** (3) Computational Number Theory (Fall 2018)

**RUSS 598** (3) Homer in Russia (Fall 2018)

**SOWK 768** (3) Professional Development-Bridge (Summer 2018)

**10. Associate Graduate Faculty Nominations (Murray Mitchell)**

Name: **Andrew White** (PhD)

Program: Anthropology

Term: Fall 2018 – Fall 2024

***This nomination received unanimous support by the Graduate Council.***

**11. Fellowships and Scholarships Committee**

None

**12. Report of Science, Math, and Related Professional Programs Committee (Rick Creswick)**

Below is a list of proposals reviewed by the Committee. Each curricular action can be viewed at this Public Agenda review site:

<https://www.sc.edu/programproposal/agenda/?id=48&code=GCO>

At this Public Agenda link, the individual proposals are not live-linked, but agenda items are listed in alphabetical order. To view the full proposals, GC members and Committee Chairs still need to go to the Committee Review site, and filter for “Committees”, then for the “Committee” called “Added to Grad Council agenda.”

None at this time.

13. **Report of the Humanities, Social Sciences, Education, and Related Professional Programs Committee**  
(Cathy Brant)

Below is a list of proposals reviewed by the Committee. Each curricular action can be viewed at this Public Agenda review site:

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None at this time.

14. **Report of the Grievances, Appeals and Petitions Committee**  
None

15. **Other Committee Reports**  
None

16. **Old Business**  
None

17. **New Business**  
None

18. **Good of the Order**  
None

19. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48p.m.

**Murray Mitchell, Secretary**

CC:

Harris Pastides, President

Joan Gabel, Provost

Cheryl Addy, Vice Provost & Dean of the Graduate School

Deans

Department Chairs

Graduate Directors

Aaron Marterer, University Registrar

Elaine Belesky, Office of the Registrar

Andrew Graves, Office of the Registrar