

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

October 16, 2024

M. Cunningham, J. O'Brien-Brown, A. Cruz, G. Morris, S. Overstreet, B. Lundebjerg, X. Geng, J. Bidima, R. Stivers, L. Lukkarila, R. Chavez, N. Nguyen, A. Schumacher, H. Ashbaugh, T. Dankova Rosensteel, J. Tasker, D. Shantz, K. Morris, Adrienn, S. Montes, K. Haugeberg, S. Yates, D. Pociask, D. Lowell, R. Proctor, K. Andrinopoulos, T. Zwanziger

1. Meeting called at 8:32
2. Approval of September Minutes, motioned by G. Morris, seconded by X. Geng
3. Grad Council Meeting Dates for Fall 2024
 - a. Program proposals and major changes need to be submitted to OGPS by the first Wednesday of the month
 - i. All CIM proposals, including even minor edits, must be in by the end of February.
 - ii. Anything that needs Grad Council approval should be in by our January meeting so that it can have all necessary approvals
 - b. November 13
 - c. December 11 (if needed)
4. Election of vice chair
5. Announcements
 - a. Three Minute Thesis – Thursday, November 7 at 2 pm, in the Freeman Auditorium of the Woldenberg Art Center. Reception to follow.
 - i. Winner will go to CSGS
 - b. Directors of Graduate Studies/Graduate Admissions Officers meeting on November 6. Membership overlaps with but is not entirely the same as Grad Council
6. Review of 2023-24 PhD Program Reviews
 - a. Student retention isn't something that can be presented in the self-study
7. Working on more transparency around data. OAIR may be able to provide support in this process, may complete some of it
8. Graduate student external employment policy – discussion
 - a. Why services versus non-services ?
 - b. What is the point of the conversation if everyone in a department is having to work, what would happen? There aren't more resources
 - c. Primary commitment is to education; what can the department do if a student's work is interfering with their ability to complete
 - d. Should Grad Council set a recommended stipend

- e. If the department set class times and a student's work interferes, what recourse does the department have?
- f. Can we come up with a list of best practices that should come from Grad Council
- 9. Dual credit policy for multiple Tulane degrees – discussion
 - a. Students moving from master's degrees to PhDs, etc
 - b. Students are having to repeat courses if they get a master's degree and then later decide to do a PhD
 - c. We essentially disadvantage our own students
 - i. It also potentially decreases the attraction of our master's degrees
 - ii. Lots of students are using a master's degree to clarify their ultimate goals
 - d. This policy feels like something designed for undergraduates. 25% may not be appropriate – should we go to 50% for students who are continuing on in the same field? Should there be differences for students going into a different field
- 10. Election of a vice chair
 - a. D. Pociask nominated (by G. Morris). Will vote in the November meeting
- 11. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 motioned by G. Morris, seconded by D. Pociask