

## **Graduate Council Meeting Minutes**

**December 11, 2024**

**M. Cunningham, T. Dankova, J. O'Brien-Brown, D. Shantz, D. Lowell, S. Overstreet, K. Haugeberg, K. Morris, G. Morris, M. Allison, S. Bernhard, A. Ruzsinszky, L. Lukkarila, N. Nguyen, S. Montes, D. Pociask, B. Lundjeberg, X. Geng, K. Andrinopoulos, J. Proctor, J. Tasker, S. Yates, A. Schumacher, D. Omerbasic**

1. Meeting called at 8:31
2. Approval of November Minutes, moved by S. Overstreet, seconded by K. Morris
3. Grad Council Meeting Dates for Spring 2025
  - a. Program proposals and major changes must reach the Grad Council stage in CIM by the first Wednesday of the month. Email notice to Mike and Jennifer is greatly appreciated.
  - b. January 8
  - c. February 12
  - d. March 12
  - e. April 9
  - f. May 14
4. Announcements
  - a. Ways to frame grant proposals based on granting agency language
  - b. Energy Rising – understanding leadership
  - c. CGS.net – if there's anything you're interested in, please let us know and we may be able to access it for you
5. SPHTM notices and proposals:
  - a. DrPH in Leadership for International Health and Sustainable Development – notice
  - b. MPH in Biostatistics replacing MSPH in Biostatistics – notice
    - i. There was a historical legacy of having both an MS and an MSPH in these departments
    - ii. SPHTM is in their accreditation year
  - c. MPH in Environmental Health Sciences replacing MSPH in Environmental Health Sciences – notice
  - d. MS in Health Security – vote
    - i. Learning outcomes were good and clear
    - ii. Passed, 16 in favor, 1 abstention
6. BMS proposals:
  - a. MS in Medical Science – vote

- i. Learning outcomes are very different from MD to MS. Need to include those outcomes.
    - ii. A way for a student who began in the MD program but isn't continuing on in that program to do a MS and get some credit for the work that has been done by completing a thesis
    - iii. Passed unanimously
  - b. PhD new concentration in Microbiology and Immunology – vote
    - i. Learning outcomes need to be included
    - ii. Cleaning up, realized that MIIM has been functioning as though they have this concentration, making it official
    - iii. Passed unanimously
- 7. SSE proposals:
  - a. MS in Chemistry, non-thesis – vote
    - i. Admitting students to the terminal MS program
    - ii. We don't market as "terminal"
    - iii. If a student wants to continue, they would have to apply to the PhD program; it wouldn't be automatic
    - iv. 17 in favor, motion passes
  - b. MS in Psychology – Behavioral Health – vote
    - i. 4+1 program exists already, proposing to open a terminal master's degree to external students
    - ii. 16 in favor, 1 abstention, motion passes
  - c. MS in Psychology – Psychological Science – vote
    - i. 4+1 program exists already, proposing to open a terminal master's degree to external students
    - ii. 17 in favor, motion passes
- 8. Graduate Credit Transfer Policy update – vote
  - a. It was purposeful to include only MA, MS, MFA. Add in MPH programs as an acceptable source of credits to transfer in.
  - b. What is the percentage of credits that could transfer from one master's degree to another? This policy is only in reference to transferring from a master's degree to a PhD
  - c. Currently, if a student comes in with a master's degree from another institution, they are able to transfer in 50% of those credits. If a student got a terminal master's degree at Tulane, they were currently only permitted to transfer in 25%, which we would like to change to permitting 50%
  - d. This does not have to be in the same major
  - e. We will create a best practices document, with examples to make sure that institutional memory is preserved

- f. Transferred credits from a Tulane degree – will the grades transfer as well from a Tulane master’s degree? Our experience is no
  - g. Departments have ultimate discretion over whether they accept credits. This policy does not imply that 50% of a student’s credits \*will\* be accepted
  - h. Motioned to vote by S. Overstreet, seconded by J. Tasker. Passed with all in favor
- 9. New business
  - a. External employment policy – subcommittee is being created but hasn’t had a chance to meet
  - b. What is the timeline for how long it takes the provost to approve proposals?
    - i. Mike will bring it up at Senior Staff with the provost and assistant provost of assessment and institutional research
- 10. Motion to adjourn at 9 :14 by J. Proctor, seconded by K. Haugeberg