

## Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2023

**J. O'Brien-Brown, B. McFadden, G. Morris, S. Overstreet, M. Cunningham, J. Tasker, H. Boyd, S. Montes, M. Miller, D. Omerbasic, M. McClure, K. Morris, X. Geng, D. Lowell, S. Bernhard, R. Stivers, O. Sabo, K. Andrinopoulos, D. Khismatullin**

1. Meeting called at 8:30
2. Approval of September Minutes, motioned by G. Morris, seconded by B. McFadden.
3. Grad Council Meeting Dates for Fall 2023
  - a. November 8
  - b. December 13 (if needed)
  - c. Program proposals and major changes need to be submitted to OGPS by the first Wednesday of the month
4. Announcements
  - a. AAU Graduate Deans' Meeting Updates
    - i. Student unionization is happening across the nation
    - ii. STEM fields have some challenges of what is the 20 hours of work for assistantship while still understanding that further work needs to happen for a student's own research
    - iii. SCOTUS decisions
    - iv. General Counsel is happy to organize a training regarding the National Labor Relation Act for directors/supervisors/department heads. Tulane doesn't have a formal position for or against unions, but it can help everyone understand the landscape. Most graduate deans who have been dealing with unions for a long time feel that unions are fine/neutral, but they can be time-consuming to deal with.
  - b. Interest in attending CSGS – Greenville, SC in March. This is our regional group of the Council of Graduate Schools, we get a discount if more than four people are attending.
  - c. Three Minute Thesis – November 9. Winner will go on to participate in the regional competition at CSGS.
  - d. Increased study session opportunities
5. Joint Master of Landscape Architecture and Master of Science in River-Coastal Science & Engineering (MLA-MS) - Update
6. Health Education and Communication Certificate – Vote
  - a. New certificate program created out of existing courses in SPHTM
  - b. 14 in favor, 1 abstain

7. Basic process for program approvals, presented by Sarah Montes. We have a new curriculum management system from Courseleaf. It replaces PDF forms for curriculum committees, and use dynamic workflows to route approvals correctly as needed for specific programs.
  - a. Some schools have had to add some extra steps outside the official system, which they can then note within documents or comments. This is particularly relevant for schools/departments with other accrediting needs.
  - b. It should make work on the catalog much more seamless.
8. DGS-GAO meeting is next Wednesday, October 18 at 8:30 via Zoom. Membership does not completely overlap with GC, but we can invite GC members to attend if they would like.
9. Motion to adjourn at 9:02 by B. McFadden, seconded by J. Tasker.