



The Graduate School

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

GRADUATE COUNCIL MINUTES

December 8, 2014

The Graduate Council met on Monday, December 8, 2014 at 2:00 P.M. in room 311 of the Byrnes Building.

Graduate Council members present: Dr. Stacy Fritz, Chair; Drs. Matt Brown, Nancy Brown, Erik Drasgow, Minuette Floyd, DeAnne Messias, Julia Lopez-Robertson, Elena Osokina, Caroline Nagel, Tracey Weldon-Stewart, Danielle Schoffman (GSA)

Graduate Council members absent: Jennifer Arns, Alexander Beecroft, Jerry Hilbish, Thomas Kramer, James Ritter, Terrance Weik, David Tedeschi, Susan Yeargin

Graduate School Representatives: Dr. Jessica Elfenbein, Dr. Murray Mitchell, and Teresa Smith

Guests: Janice Edwards

NOTE: *These minutes will become final on January 26, 2015, if not challenged.*

1. **Call to Order and Approval of Agenda** (Stacy Fritz)

Dr. Fritz called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M.

2. **Approval of Minutes for the meeting on November 24, 2014.**

The minutes were reviewed electronically and approved by the Council. Minutes are on file at The Graduate School website at:

<http://app.gradschool.sc.edu/gradcouncil/minutes.asp>

3. **Report of the Chair** (Stacy Fritz)

No report.

4. **Report of the Dean of The Graduate School** (Jessica Elfenbein for Lacy Ford)

Dr. Elfenbein announced that the 2015 Presidential Fellows nominations are being accepted in three rounds. The first round deadline is on Monday, January 26, 2015. The second is on Monday, February 16, 2015, and the final deadline is Monday, March 2, 2015.

Graduate Student Day will be on Friday, April 10, 2015. The deadline for Graduate Student Day Proposals is on Wednesday, March 11, 2015.

Dr. Elfenbein mentioned that she and Dr. Mitchell just returned from the [Council of Graduate Schools Meeting in Washington, DC.](#) Dr. Elfenbein presented at the conference, and attached are some of the slides presented at the meeting

5. Report of the Associate Dean /Secretary of the Graduate Council (Murray Mitchell)

Based on discussions from that meeting described by Dr. Elfenbein, Regarding peer and peer-aspirant institutions, we are solidly in line with what's going on at other institutions. There is a fair amount of difference relative to the funding models at these institutions as to how graduate assistants and programs are by central administration. Many of the decisions are data driven by a Graduate School that collects information about programs and shares that information with the central administration. Providing information to central administration does have some impact on how the resources are allocated such as succession plans to replace faculty as they retire, support programs that fit into the vision and mission of the institution. That is true to a much lesser extent here. Most of the programs here live and die on their own merit. Some departments conduct evaluations and collect interesting information about their graduate programs. The graduate student population is approximately 6 thousand out of the nearly 31,000 students and 300 doctoral degrees were granted recently.

There is not a lot of information on the collection or allocation of student funding on campus. Where is placement data for graduate students? What timeframe is it taking the typical graduate student to graduate? What careers are they finding in the workplace? What are the real costs related to getting a graduate education? We are mandated to publish this information for certificate programs. A part of this justification for doing that is because of the competition with for profit institutions, to have real information to present to prospective students as to how much this program is going to cost. Students are responsible for paying fees even in the case of receiving a tuition waiver. Truth in advertising is part of the push for certificates and for graduate programs. It will help to have research to answer questions such as: What are the application, graduation and retention numbers in a certain program? How many people apply? How many students are accepted into the program annually? How many students actually stay in the program and graduate? What is the timeframe from admission to candidacy and from candidacy to degree? Diversity is one other issue that needs further research conducted on this campus. What does diversity look like in our graduate programs? What are the goals for increasing diversity? How are we achieving them?

The Carnegie Project for the Education Doctorate. There was some discussion clearly delineating the EdD as a professional, practitioner type of degree and how it might be different from a research type of degree. The Carnegie Project points out that the Education Doctorate may have some good implications other doctoral disciplines such as physical therapy, etc. or how a Capstone project may look quite different as an applied format rather than a traditional dissertation type of format.

6. Report of the Graduate Student Association Representative (Danielle Schoffman)

The President of the GSA, Brittany Walter, was invited to meet with the President of the University, Harris Pastides, and the Provost. The meeting went well and they were receptive to the issues Brittany presented. Among the topics discussed were Veteran Affairs services for Graduate Students, Student Affairs, and Graduate Student Orientation

and the Mandatory Health Insurance. There will be another meeting soon. Danielle wanted to know if everyone was receiving the [GSA Newsletter](#). A current copy of the December edition is attached. Danielle asked if anyone had any recommendations for alternative approaches to reach graduates. The only suggestion was to continue with multiple media efforts.

7. Report of the Academic Policy and Practices Committee (Stacy Fritz)

No report.

8. Report of the Committee on 500/600 Level Courses, Distance Education and Special Courses (Murray Mitchell)

A listing of 500/600 Level Courses was presented to Council. The list was presented to the Council for informational purposes only.

Distance Education

[SOWK 739 Intervention Strategies in Military Behavioral Health and Combat Related Issues \(3\)](#)

Military social work focuses on social work practice, policy, and advocacy and includes preventive, treatment, and rehabilitative services to uniformed service members veterans, and their families.

[Effective: Summer 2015]

9. Fellowships and Scholarships Committee (Carolina Nagel)

As mentioned in the Report of the Dean above, Dr. Elfenbein announced that the 2015 Presidential Fellows nominations are being accepted in three rounds. The first round deadline is on Monday, January 26, 2015. The second is on Monday, February 16, 2015, and the final deadline is March 2, 2015.

10. Report of the Science, Math, and Related Professional Program Committee (DeAnne Messias)

Department of Exercise Science

Course Change Proposal and Bulletin Change

[PHYT 755 Spinal Manual Therapy \(Manual Therapy II\)](#) (2)

Current: ~~2-credit~~ hours

Proposed: 3 credit hours

[Effective: Fall 2015]

Course Change Proposal and Bulletin Change

[PHYT 815 Management of Physical Therapy Practice](#) (4)

Theory and application of management supervision and leadership skills necessary for the practice of physical therapy. NOTE: Restricted to D.P.T. students.

Current: ~~4-credit~~ hours

Proposed: 3 credit hours

[Effective: Fall 2015]

School of Medicine-Genetic Counseling

New Course Proposal and Distributed Education Delivery

HGEN 740 Transforming Health Care for the Future (1)

Foundation for beginning health professions students to gain an understanding of the complexities of the health care system through experiential activities conducted in interprofessional teams and the importance of interprofessional collaboration in order to improve the system. Also graded pass/fail for pharmacy, social work and public health, other units with stand-alone course (medicine and nursing have requirements embedded in larger class).

[Effective: Spring 2015]

11. Report of the Humanities, Social Sciences, Education, and Related Professional Programs Committee (Matt Brown)

No report.

12. Report of the Grievances, Appeals and Petitions Committee (Erik Drasgow)

No report

13. Other Committee Reports

No report

14. Old Business

No report

15. New Business

No report.

16. Good of the Order

Dr. Fritz reminded members to please sign the attendance sheet. Dr. Mitchell thanked all who made an effort to attend and wished all a safe and happy holiday.

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:48 P.M.

Murray Mitchell, Secretary

cc:

President Harris Pasties

Senior Vice Provost & Dean of Graduate Studies Lacy Ford

Provost Michael Amiridis

Deans

Department Chairs
Graduate Directors
Aaron Marterer, University Registrar
Jodie Morris, Office of the Registrar
Andrew Graves, Office of the Registrar
Nancy Floyd, Office of Institutional Assessment and Compliance