Graduate Council Minutes - April 6, 2026
3:00 p.m., Virtual

Members Present: Jim McQuillan (Chair), Chunying Zhao, John Determan, Niyazi Ekici, Roberta Di Carmine, Heidi Lung, Sebastian Szyjka (Vice Chair)

Members Absent: Gina Yi

Ex-officio: Kishor Kapale

Others Present: Sheryl Harty

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. New Academic Integrity Incident reports filed in the School of Graduate Studies (0)

II. CURRICULUM

A. Theatre
1. Request for new graduate course
a. THEA 564

Motion: To approve the request (Lung/Ekici)

MOTION CARRIED: 7 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB

2. Request to change graduate program requirements
a. Acting

Motion: To approve the request (Lung/Di Carmine)

MOTION CARRIED: 7 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB

b. Directing

Motion: To approve the request (Lung/Determan)

MOTION CARRIED: 7 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB

B. Accounting and Business Administration
1. Request for new Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Program

a. Accounting

Motion: To approve the request (Zhao/Lung)

MOTION CARRIED: 7 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB

b. Marketing Strategy and Measurement

Motion: To approve the request (Lung/Di Carmine)

MOTION CARRIED: 7 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB

C. Computer Science
1. Request for new graduate course
a. CS 507 – topics in cybersecurity

Motion: To approve the request (Ekici/Determan)

MOTION CARRIED: 7 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB

b. CS 508 – computer forensics

Motion: To approve the request (Ekici/Di Carmine)

MOTION CARRIED: 7 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB

D. Sport Management
1. Request to change graduate program requirements

Motion: To approve the request (Lung/Di Carmine)

MOTION CARRIED: 7 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Three Strikes for Academic Integrity violations:
1. The Council discussed the potential for students to be required to petition the Council for reinstatement after academic integrity violations. Dr. Kapale inquired as to what the penalty was, low grades? Dr. McQuillan stated that the penalty varies and is determined by the instructor. Dr. Kapale questioned if the penalty was not a C or lower grade, should a person with 3 strikes be removed from the University? If it's not egregious enough for a failing grade, are 3 incidents severe enough to get them out of the program?

2. A 2nd violation of the Academic Integrity policy will automatically result in judicial charges being brought against the student. The Grad School could provide background on the Academic Integrity violation. It was noted that past student conduct reports/action for repeat academic integrity offenses has been lacking and does not deter this behavior.
3. A violation exists if all appeals are denied or if the student never appeals in the first place. Any approved appeal would not count as an incident.
4. The Council acknowledged the need to be mindful of sharing academic integrity violations due to FERPA and the need to be fair to the student.
5. The advisor, student, and School of Graduate Studies would be aware of 3rd violation, and student would be removed from the program.
6. It was noted that Student Conduct did not make decisions during the Spring 2024 semester with enough time to keep a student with multiple violations from earning a degree. There was no communication to the Grad School at all. However, communication has improved in the interim. A discussion was held about the recommended policy and some data was shared about how many students have graduated with academic integrity violations.
7. Dr. Zhao inquired as to how peer institutions deal with these violations and suggested the Council brief some policies online.
8. The Council decided to gather additional information and return to this discussion at the next meeting.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion of Application to Serve as a Reader/Chair on a Graduate Exit Option Committee Selection form.
    1. Full grad faculty states how much work is needed for approval to serve on exit option for students in different disciplines. The Council discussed what needs to happen? Dr. Kapale stated that faculty serving on an exit option for students from the same discipline should be automatic. Elevating approval to the Grad Council will delay decision, increase requirements/renewals, and delay student's formation of committees.
    2. It was noted that the form is a student not faculty record, and that there is no way to see the faculty qualifications as they relate to the student exit option. They should be specific to student's exit option to

ensure the faculty is qualified. The Council discussed having the CV and a letter of support explaining how this faculty's training and expertise is relevant to the specific student's exit option.

3. No action item was created and the policy will remain as is for now.

V. STUDENT APPEALS

A. Alternative Teacher Licensure

1. Request for selective University Withdrawal – Student A

Council discussed how this student accidentally registered for the wrong class which required a prerequisite. The student has the department's support. The Council considered that a full university withdrawal would cost the student residency hours and PEL has limited time, so the loss of residency hours would unfairly penalize the student.

Motion: To approve the request (Ekici/Szyjka)

MOTION CARRIED: 7 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB

B. School Psychology

1. Request to hold an assistantship as a probationary student – Student B

Motion: To approve the request (Lung/Determan)

MOTION CARRIED: 7 Yes – 0 NO – 0 AB

Next meeting April 27th for regular items; May meeting for student appeals

Meeting adjourned: 4:20 p.m.