Graduate Council Minutes - February 2, 2026

3:00 p.m., Virtual

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

Ex-officio: Kishor Kapale

Others present: Sheryl Harty

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Academic integrity incident reports filed in the School of Graduate Studies (1-December)
B. Pending Academic Integrity appeal resolved at department level

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. Graduate Studies Operating Paper—Discussion of possible changes

Reorganization of the university into two colleges will impact the composition of the Graduate Council and revisions to the graduate school operating paper will be required. Possible areas of revision, include 4 representatives from each college, written policy for retired faculty serving as chairs on exit options, update references of departments to School, include Graduate Research & Professional Conference in operating paper and consider summer council meetings to align with CAGAS. The Graduate Council subcommittee will begin discussing changes, formulate a draft for full council consideration, and eventually a finalized version to be voted on by full graduate faculty.

B. Graduate Research & Professional Conference – in remembrance of Amanda Schulz

It was suggested that Amanda Schulz be honored for all her work and commitment to the conference. The conference could be renamed, an award named for her or other designation. The Council preferred the first option, however, prior to any work towards this, a living relative would need to consent. A motion to move forward with obtaining consent from a living relative was requested.

Motion: To approve the request (Lung/Szyjka)
MOTION CARRIED: 8 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB

III. STUDENT APPEALS

A. Business Administration

1. Student A – Request to hold an assistantship with less than a 3.0 Graduate GPA

Council considered the student's responsibilities, departmental support, and a letter of support.

Motion: To approve the request (Szyjka/Lung)
MOTION CARRIED: 8 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB

B. Political Science

1. Student B – Waiver of C Rule

Council discussed student's low grades in the most recent semester and reviewed departmental support.

Motion: To approve the request (Yi/Lung)
MOTION CARRIED: 8 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB

C. Reading

1. Student C – Complete Late University Withdrawal

Council discussed the miscommunication which caused the student not to start their course and voted on changing the grade from FN to W.

Motion: To approve the request (Lung/Determan)
MOTION CARRIED: 8 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB

D. Sociology

1. Student D – Waiver of the C Rule

Council considered the student's rationale and departmental support.

Motion: To approve the request (Lung/Ekici)
MOTION CARRIED: 8 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB

2. Student D – Complete Late University Withdrawal

Council discussed late University withdrawal as opposed to grade replacement and retaking courses. As this would impact the GPA significantly, the Council voted to deny the request.

Motion: To deny the request (Yi/Lung)
MOTION CARRIED: 8 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB

3. Student D – Hold an assistantship with less than 3.0 Grad GPA

Council considered the student's schedule involving outside commitments, but determined that the low GPA would take more than one semester to restore.

Motion: To deny the request (Lung/Yi)
MOTION CARRIED: 8 YES – 0 NO – 0 AB

Meeting adjourned: 3:44 p.m.