

# 2020-2021 Academic Year Graduate Council Summary

The Graduate Council in the 2020-2021 academic year approved several dual-listed courses, program proposals, and new associate graduate faculty members and graduate lecturers. Program and course approvals can be found on the [Graduate Council Docket](#). The Graduate College administration maintains a database of all new graduate faculty and graduate lecturers. If you have questions about whether someone has graduate faculty status, please consult the [Graduate Faculty Database](#). You can contact Natalie Robinson in the Graduate College with any questions.

## Policy Changes

### Modification to Procedures for Graduate Faculty Associate Membership

The 2020-2021 Graduate Council discussed the procedures by which non-ISU employees may become eligible to serve as voting members on a graduate student POSC. In the past, such individuals had to first become an Affiliate Faculty member of ISU, and then an Associate Member of the Graduate Faculty. It was noted that for non-ISU employees wishing to serve solely on a POSC, the first step – becoming an Affiliate Faculty member of ISU – is no longer in compliance with current ISU policies, as POSC membership alone is insufficient to justify Affiliate Faculty status as per the Provost's Affiliate Agreement policy. This creates a procedural impasse. Additionally, this step is unduly cumbersome and unnecessary (many ISU faculty have not needed to go through this step to become POSC members at other academic institutions).

Essentially, the new procedure removes the Affiliate Faculty requirement, but retains other approval steps.

#### Summary of Proposed Policy

For non tenure-track ISU faculty and non-ISU employees, nomination to Associate Graduate Faculty status requires:

- A nomination letter from the DOGE explaining how the candidate is expected to contribute to the program and in what capacity, along with the candidate's CV
- Graduate Program faculty vote on the nomination
- GFMC approval
- Final decision by the Graduate College
- Other suggestions related to the number of non-ISU employees on a POSC, and issues related to grievances, are also incorporated

#### Comments on Changes

The above changes were made to respond to concerns that:

- All nominations to Associate Faculty status be evaluated similarly
- Program faculty are aware of their own membership via voting on new members

- The standards for POSC membership are the same for all POSC members for all students

[Modification to Procedures for Graduate Faculty Associate Membership Full Document](#)

[Appendix G revisions](#)

## **Graduate Certificates**

The Graduate Council reviewed the graduate certificate policy because there are many students who want to leave ISU with a credential to show the work that they did as a graduate student, but the requirement to take three credits after admission to the certificate program is a barrier to students. This requirement to apply for a certificate before completing the final three credits earned toward the certificate also limits job opportunities for students. There is a need to head off retroactive certificates, but there is a better way than requiring three credits after admission.

Changes made to the policy include:

- Differentiating among application processes for students
- Eliminating requirements about when certificate POS forms must be filed
- Allowing students to complete a certificate up to two years after they've completed the last course needed for the certificate.

Additionally, the statement about the number of allowable graduate and undergraduate credits has been removed in the revised policy.

[Appendix C revisions](#)

## **Distance Tuition Concerns**

The Graduate Council discussed tuition for distance graduate students at our December 2020 meeting. Many Council members, even those who work with distance programs, had not heard directly from the administration about this change that occurred in July.

This change in tuition assessment could have a devastating effect on the enrollment in our 25 degree programs and 32 certificate programs with distance options. The possibility of an increase in tuition starting in the 2022-2023 academic year will affect the retention of existing students and recruitment of students to initiate their programs in 2021.

[Distance Tuition Full Memo](#)

## **Recruitment Needs**

Monica Haddad led a workgroup to discuss recruitment needs in graduate programs. She and her team developed a survey to send to DOGEs and GradSup to gather information about current recruitment resources offered by the Graduate College and whether programs are aware of those resources and/or take advantage of them. The group will meet over the summer and discuss next steps and present recommendations to the Council and Dean Graves.

[Recruitment DOGE Survey Draft](#)

# Dissertation/Thesis Formatting Updates

The 2020-2021 Graduate Council established a thesis/dissertation workgroup to explore current issues, guidelines, templates, and resources related to theses and dissertations. Lily Compton, the chair of this workgroup, created a [survey](#) so that the Center for Communication Excellence (CCE) and the Graduate College can better support graduate students in the final steps of their programs. The survey will be distributed in the fall 2021 semester to DOGEs and graduate students.

## Thesis/Dissertation WorkGroup Updates

### New Degree Programs

#### Master's and Ph.D. Program Updates:

- Finance Specialization for Ph.D. in Business and Technology
- Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence
- Master of Arts in Teaching New Major- Secondary Education
- Master of Arts in Teaching New Major- Mathematics
- MBA with a specialization in Leadership
- Master of Healthcare Analytics and Operations (in progress)
- Master of Community Development (in progress)
- Master of Entrepreneurship (in progress)

#### Concurrent Graduate/Undergraduate Degrees:

- Concurrent BS Cybersecurity/MBA
- Concurrent BS SE, MS/MEN Cyber Security
- Concurrent BS CPR E, MS/MEN Cyber Security
- Concurrent BS/MS or MEN Cyber Security
- Concurrent BS Athletic Training/MS Athletic Training
- Concurrent B.A. Advertising/M.S. Journalism and Mass Communication
- Concurrent B.S. Journalism/M.S. Journalism and Mass Communication
- Concurrent B.S. Public Relations/M.S. Journalism and Mass Communication
- Concurrent BS in CON E/MBA (in progress)

#### New Graduate Minor:

- Criminal Justice Minor

### Discontinued Graduate Programs

- Discontinuation of BRT MS/Ph.D. and Certificate
- Discontinuation of Graduate Certificate in Dietetic Internship
- Discontinuation of Masters of School Mathematics Program (in progress)