Iowa State University Graduate Council MEETING MINUTES

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Meeting: Graduate Council*** | ***Key Roles*** |
| Date: March 23, 2022  Place: Webex | Meeting Leader: Dean Adams, Chair |
| Start Time: 4:15 pm | Support: Natalie Robinson |
| End Time: 5:30 pm |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| TIME | TOPIC | DISCUSSION LEADER |
| 4:15 | Call to Order   * Attendance and seating of substitute council members   + Kathleen Delate for Ajay Nair | Adams |
| 4:15 | Announcements and Remarks   * Graduate Council Chair, Dean Adams * Graduate Dean, Bill Graves   + Recruiting cycle for summer and fall is in full swing. Reminded Council to be aware of the April 15 resolution. If offering financial support (assistantship, most often), cannot require a decision from applicant on whether to accept offer until at least April 15. Many of the best applicants will have difficult decisions to make among many offers. Additionally, ISU is at an advantage to not accept students early and potentially regret that later. Violators to the April 15 Resolution should be reported to CGS.   + GPSS Research Conference on April 6. Faculty and staff volunteer as moderators, session leaders, etc. and are still looking for volunteers. Contact GPSS officers if interested. * Graduate College Office, Natalie Robinson   + Graduate Council nominations are out now via Qualtrics. Vice Chair for next academic year determined at the April (and final!) meeting | Adams, Graves, Robinson |
| 4:20 | Consent Agenda   * Agenda for March 23, 2022, meeting * [Minutes](https://www.grad-council.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/2021-2022/February%202022/GC%20February%20Minutes_nbr_02-16-2022_final.docx) for February 16, 2022, meeting * Items from GCCC:   + Dual-list: [POL S 474X/574](https://nextcatalog.registrar.iastate.edu/courseadminx/?key=2479)   + Dual-list: [TSM 471/TSM 571X](https://nextcatalog.registrar.iastate.edu/courseadminx/?key=2504)   + [Early Childhood and Family Policy Certificate Proposal](https://www.grad-council.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/2021-2022/March%202022/Early%20Childhood%20and%20Family%20Policy%20Cert-revised%203-8-2022.doc) * All in favor: approved 14-0 | Adams |
| 4:25 | Old Business   * [Graduate Minors language proposal](https://www.grad-council.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/2021-2022/January%202022/Ready%20for%20Vote_Minor%20Policy.docx) – [Survey Results](file:///\\myfiles.iastate.edu\gcol$\Users\nbr\Grad%20Council\GC%202021-2022\March%202022\Graduate%20Minors%20Survey%20Results.csv) (Adams & Robinson)   + Adams: Originated when a student requested to add a minor by a program that does not offer one, so Council clarified language to make it so that it is not implied that a minor is required of all graduate major programs.   + Freeman supportive of clarifying language proposed.   + Lonergan seconded.   + Graves: current policy empowers student to request a minor. Student could request a minor if one doesn’t already exist currently.   + Adams clarified that a student wanted to do a minor in EEB; the Handbook says you can minor in it, but EEB does not offer a minor. Intent is to clarify that you minor in a major that offers one. Are all undergrad minors required to offer a minor? No. Minors are listed in an approved list. Proposed change aligns more closely with undergraduate education and makes minor offerings clearer to students.   + Ryan: If a minor must be approved, would the program have to create a minor if they didn’t want to offer one in first place if the policy opened it up so that students could request a minor?   + Haddad: motivate student to take a minor if the programs can be displayed publicly.   + All in favor; 14-0  6.3.2 Graduate Courses Taken as an ISU Undergraduate – [Option 1](https://iastate.box.com/s/go2rv67ph5ap8uts1w82nigvepkobksh) and [Option 2](https://iastate.box.com/s/ohzgdrwodyqqcu4cyv3wb6pje39h8zfl) policy proposals (2nd reading). Haddad update: [Comparing GC policies that combine undergrad/grad student status and courses](https://www.grad-council.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/2021-2022/March%202022/Comparing_policies_MH_NR_0308-2022.pdf) (Haddad)Option 2: cannot use undergrad classes taken as an undergrad on POSOption 1: Can use undergrad classes taken as undergrad on POS3 policies impacted here. Concurrent, UG courses taken as a grad student, and grad courses taken as ISU undergrad.Grad student taking undergrad class because they are in a different graduate major than the major in which they received their undergrad degree, so they are needing background in that area.Lonergan: Regarding the concurrent policy, how will students be motivated to be in a master’s program? They are already in a master’s degree program.Weinstein: original issue was situation where there isn’t a concurrent program and an undergrad student is taking undergrad courses that they wish to apply to a graduate degree. Instead of using undergrad courses, if interested, the idea is to motivate the students to take grad classes instead. Personally, no strong stake in this. What was working for E CPE to recruit undergrads was telling them that they could do a short master’s degree. Haddad presentation telling department to find a new strategy.Chen: in E CPE department (EE, CPR E, Software Engineering, CYBSC, etc.), to enforce current policy strictly will have an impact. The E CPE department does convince undergrads to become concurrent later. By no longer allowing undergrad courses taken as an undergrad on the POSC, it will take freedom away from programs, and many student will not choose to attend grad school at ISU. These undergrad courses taken as an undergrad are always extra credits that the student didn’t use toward their undergraduate degree. Allow students from other institutions to use UG to meet deficiencies with UG courses, but those courses are not used on the POSC.Freeman: Doesn’t prevent E CPE from doing what they described. Once the student is a grad student, they can still take UG level courses just like UG from other institutions can. As an undergraduate, just have them try a grad class, which can motivate the student to start a grad program. Still getting to use courses they take in their last semester as an undergrad. Just take the grad course before some of the UG.Ryan: Inclusion of UG courses on POSC, it seems that E CPE is outside mainstream of allowing 3 courses of 300 and 400-level courses. IMSE doesn’t allow too many UG courses. M.S. with thesis option: if student took 9 credits of thesis credits and took 9 UG credits, that leaves them with only 12 credits of grad courses which is the same as a grad cert. M.S. degree is equivalent to a grad cert if they do all this double counting.Weinstein: confused to how slide corresponds to language we’re talking about. If a grad student can take 9 credits of UG and count toward grad degree, while undergrads are taking the same courses, so why can’t they count those same 9 credits?Adams: Do we need an explicit policy to state that UG courses taken as an undergrad can’t be used toward a grad degree?Graves: issue was how do you define a grad course? By 500- or 600-level course or what’s allowable on a POSC. If it allows 300 and 400-level courses, that was one of the points of this coming to Council. Because we allow 300 and 400 to count toward a grad degree, the question is whether we allow those courses if they were taken as an undergraduate student.Graves: 5th bullet, credits could’ve been used to met UG requirements; could be changed to say they couldn’t be used to meet UG requirements. Would that be a reasonable compromise to not allow the UG courses to double count toward both degrees?Retain perspective of catalog: not change definition of a graduate course.Consider Graves’s amendment and kick it back one more time to GC.Freeman: issue of amendment, violates concurrent; make sure we don’t keep an additional constraint. | Adams, Haddad, Robinson |
| 4:40 | New Business   * [MS Coursework Only in COM S and A I Proposal](https://www.grad-council.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/2021-2022/March%202022/MS%20Course%20Work_ComS_proposal%202-23-2022.docx) – taken to GCCC for their recommendation to the Council, but no vote conducted at GCCC because of policy implications. (Lonergan)   + GCCC felt it would change policy because it’s not just a new program   + Committee not in favor; changes spirit of what an MS is.   + Don’t need to consider this proposal, but do we want an MS program to be coursework only, ever, is the question?   + Scientific process is historically part of an MS degree at ISU and what distinguishes it from others master’s degrees.   + Graves: facing two conflicting forces; upholding standards and traditions that call for a Master of Science to mean something different, which includes an element of independent scholarship and to learn scientific methods. On the other hand, the proposal cited universities that do offer coursework only degrees called “Master of Science”; University of Texas at Austin and Purdue do offer these coursework-only Master of Science degrees. Looking for consensus to make ISU competitive with other schools and to uphold standards. Could call it a Master of Science in computer science and add “professional track” or something as a compromise.   + Lonergan: recruiting students and enrollment is important; online programs are important. Easy to think it’s a slam dunk to pursue this. Hard to walk away from students and tuition dollars, so recognize the motivating factors.   + How regulated is the rigor of the creative component? We have no policies surrounding what constitutes a creative component. Could be rigorous or very minimal. Creative components are publicly available now.   + Weinstein: If we don’t regulate the creative component, then it seems difficult to argue that it’s an issue of upholding a standard of an MS to NOT allow a coursework-only MS.   + Freeman: even for a creative component, there is still a defense. Coursework-only doesn’t have a defense. Could that be a requirement if they want to have a coursework-only MS degree?   + 2 credits of creative component doesn’t seem too onerous and could be added to an MS in COM S.   + Lonergan: Adding a piece of rigor would appease the GCCC’s concerns. Variation in rigor among grad programs. If we allow a Master of Science with just coursework, we’ve opened the floodgates and set a precedent. A side effect could be that it waters down the MS that requires a thesis. Would need some added rigor or he is not in favor of the proposal. Adams agrees with Lonergan’s perspective. Reticent to change policy that could have negative effect. | Lonergan, Robinson |
| 5:25 | Other Items/Issues |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **First Name** | **Last Name** | **Discipline Area** | **Aug** | **Sept.** | **Oct** | **Nov** | **Dec** | **Jan** | **Feb** | **Mar** | **Apr** |
| Dean | Adams | Biological & Agricultural Sciences | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Michael | Brown | Social Sciences & Education | P | P | P | A | P | P | P | A |  |
| Sarah | Ryan | Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering | P | A | P | P | P | P | A | P |  |
| Chunhui | Xiang | Social Sciences & Education | P | p | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Steven | Lonergan | Biological & Agricultural Sciences | P | P | P | P | P | A | P | P |  |
| Jae Hwa | Lee | Arts & Humanities | P | A | P | A | A | P | P | P |  |
| Monica | Haddad | Arts & Humanities | P | P | P | P | A | P | P | P |  |
| Tera | Jordan | Social Sciences & Education | P | p | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Michael | Bailey | Arts & Humanities | P | p | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Donna | Winham | Biological & Agricultural Sciences | P | P | P | P | A | A | P | A |  |
| Scott | Nelson | Biological & Agricultural Sciences | P | A | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Degang | Chen | Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Ajay (Kathleen) | Nair (Delate) | Biological & Agricultural Sciences | P | sub | P | P | P | A | P | P |  |
| Jin | Tian | Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering | A | A | P | A | A | P | P | P |  |
| Amanda | Weinstein | Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering | P | p | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Steven | Freeman | Faculty Senate Representative | P | p | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stephanie | Klein | Post Doc |  |  | P | A | A | P | A | P |  |
| Katherine | Geist | Post Doc |  |  | A | A | A | A | A | A |  |
|  |  | Grad Student--Physical & Math Sciences & Engineering |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chelsea | Iennarella-Servantez | GPSS Pres/Grad Student -- Biological & Agricultural Sciences | P | P | P | A | A | A | A | A |  |
| Charles (Chuck) | Wongus | Grad Student--Social Sciences & Education | A | A | A | A | A | A | A | A |  |
| Carrie Ann | Johnson | Grad Student -- Arts & Humanities | P | P | P | A | P | P | P | P |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ex-officio |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bill | Graves | Dean of the Graduate College | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Carolyn | Cutrona | Associate Dean, Graduate College | P | P | P | P | P | P | A | A |  |
| Natalie | Robinson | Assistant Director of Academic Services, Graduate College | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |
| Samantha | Hirschman | Graduate Student Services Specialist II, Graduate College | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P |  |