Iowa State University Graduate Council MEETING MINUTES

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| ***Meeting: Graduate Council*** | ***Key Roles*** |
| Date: September 28, 2022Place: 3150 Beardshear Hall | Meeting Leader: Monica Haddad, Chair |
| Start Time: 2:15 pm | Support: Natalie Robinson, Celina Turner |
| End Time: 3:30 pm |  |

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| **TIME** | **TOPIC** | **DISCUSSION LEADER** |
| 2:15 | Call to Order* Attendance and seating of substitute council members
	+ Nick Gabler for Steven Lonergan, Jay Kim for Degang Chen,Celina Turner for Samantha Hirschman
* Group Photo
 | Haddad |
| 2:15 | Announcements and Remarks* Graduate Council Chair, Monica Haddad
* Graduate Dean, Bill Graves
	+ Registration for 3MT is now closed. There are 118 registrants this year, which is a new record. Opportunities are still available if faculty, staff, or postdocs want to volunteer as judges for the preliminary round, which will be held on October 27. The final round will be held on November 10 in the Memorial Union if anyone is interesting in observing the presentations. External constituents will serve as judges for the final round.
* Graduate College Office, Natalie Robinson
* Dean of LAS, Beate Schmittmann
	+ The Dean’s Advisory Council is really interested in graduate education. In particular, the Council is interested in three topics:
		1. The composition of the Graduate Council and whether it accurately reflects graduate education at ISU. The composition should reflect all colleges. It’s important that college deans feel their interests are being represented and that they have a way to bring topics of interest forward to this Council.
		2. Master of Science coursework-only degrees. This option could make ISU more competitive in international markets.
		3. The number and level of undergraduate-level credits that can apply toward graduate degrees.
 | Haddad, Graves, Robinson, Schmittmann |
| 2:35 | Consent Agenda* Agenda for September 28, 2022, meeting
* [Minutes](https://www.grad-council.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/2022-2023/August%202022/GC%20August%202022%20Minutes_srh_nbr.docx) for August 31, 2022, meeting
* Items from Grad Catalog Curriculum Committee
	+ [Proposal for Graduate Certificate in Postsecondary Teaching](https://www.grad-council.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/2022-2023/September%202022/Proposal%20for%20Graduate%20Certificate%20in%20Postsecondary%20Teaching_votingrecordanddescription_04122011.pdf)
 | Haddad |
| 2:40 | Old Business* [6.3.2 Graduate Courses Taken as an ISU Undergraduate](https://iastate.app.box.com/file/914911306111?s=ohzgdrwodyqqcu4cyv3wb6pje39h8zfl)
	+ Haddad: Currently, graduate students can use up to 6 credits of 500-level courses taken as an undergraduate student toward the graduate degree. Since the beginning of summer, I’ve received a lot of emails from department chairs and faculty stating that this policy may be limiting opportunities. It’s very important that we compare ourselves to peer institutions.
	+ Morgan: We currently allow a maximum of 3 credits at the 300‑level on the POSC. Would that still apply if this policy changes?
		- Robinson: Yes, it could. Those same restrictions could apply across the board.
	+ Morgan: I’m skeptical of double counting 300-level courses. What’s the justification for allowing this?
		- Haddad: Increased enrollment in graduate programs. Students have stated they will not continue with their graduate degree at ISU if they cannot use 300- or 400‑level courses taken as an undergraduate student toward their graduate degree.
	+ Freeman: If we allow undergraduate-level courses taken at ISU on the POSC, we need to allow undergraduate-level courses from other institutions as well. If it’s just about money, then we should reduce the number of required credits for our graduate degrees or open it up to undergraduate-level courses from other institutions. I don’t understand the justification for allowing undergraduate-level courses taken as an undergraduate student on the POSC.
	+ Robinson: Concurrent undergraduate/graduate students typically declare concurrency in the junior or senior year of their undergraduate studies. Once they declare concurrency, they become classified as a graduate student. Concurrent undergraduate/graduate students can double count a certain number of credits toward both degrees. The number of credits that can be doubled counted depends on the required credits for the master’s degree.
	+ Graves: In conversations with Deans from other institutions, I’ve learned that one difference we have from other institutions is that when a student declares concurrency, they become classified as a graduate student, which means they are assessed graduate tuition and lose eligibility for undergraduate loans and scholarships. That’s a major deterrent for students when deciding whether to pursue concurrency. Other peer institutions don’t classify concurrent students as graduate students until after they’ve completed the undergraduate degree.
	+ Shrotriya: The financial aid piece is a major roadblock for students.
	+ Soupir: Courses can be dual-listed as 400-level/500-level courses. Many undergraduate students take the 400-level course without knowing that the 500-level course could later be used for the graduate degree. Could we allow dual-listed courses to double count?
	+ Shrotriya: There should be one policy that applies to everyone. This policy penalizes students who don’t have assistantships.
	+ Soupir: What percent of concurrent students are on tuition scholarship? If a student is taking a lot of undergraduate-level courses, I’m hesitant to put them on a full scholarship.
	+ Lee: University policy should be flexible. Each program can then decide for themselves whether to be more restrictive.
	+ Haddad: We’ll write up a short paragraph on this topic and send it to all Council members. I encourage Council members to take this discussion back to their departments/constituents.
* [MS Coursework Only in Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Proposal](https://www.grad-council.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/2021-2022/April%202022/MS%20Course%20Work_ComS_Updated.docx)
	+ Soupir: There is broad interest in this option. This is something to consider more broadly, not just for Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence.
	+ Robinson: If this proposal is approved, it would open the door for other programs to pursue an MS coursework-only degree.
	+ Brown: I worry that there’s no educational basis for changing the name of the degree. It’s largely a marketing decision. If we decide to fundamentally change the names of degrees, there needs to be broader motivation than just marketing.
	+ Shrotriya: We are recruiting students from all over the world. We need to be aware of the perception of MS degrees in other countries.
	+ Lee: University-wide policy should be more flexible. Each department can then decide what their MS degree will look like.
	+ Brown: If we allow an MS with no thesis or creative component, I worry that students will stop coming to this university because the degree is less valuable. I don’t see the rationale for changing the degree.
	+ Shrotriya: We should decide on the policy for all programs first, not just Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence.
* [Documenting changes to the Graduate College Handbook](file:///%5C%5Cmy.files.iastate.edu%5Cgcol%24%5CUsers%5Cnbr%5CGrad%20Council%5CGC%202021-2022%5CApril%202022%5CDocumenting-Archiving-Grad-Handbook-Changes.pdf)
 | Haddad |
|  3:10 | New Business* Subcommittee membership
	+ UG credit on POSC
		- Pranav, Degang, Steven L.
	+ English Requirement and International 3-year degrees
		- Michael Bailey, Donna, Sung
	+ Handbook Rewrite
		- Christine, Efrain, Emily (Natalie as ex-officio to clarify policy that can be changed by this body vs. university policy as needed)
	+ Naming of Master’s Degrees
		- Young-Jin, Gretchen, Xiang
	+ Review Council By-Laws/Constitution
		- No subcommittee
	+ Student Health and Wellness Policy
		- Ajay, Carolyn, Caitlyn, Michael Brown
	+ Supervision of Postdoctoral Scholars
		- Steven F., Elizabeth, Susheel (Misty Treanor, ex-officio for policy clarification.)
	+ Policy for appointing current graduate faculty to majors – did not discuss
	+ Dissertation/Thesis/Creative Component language in Handbook – did not discuss
 | Haddad, Robinson |
| 3:25 | Other Items/Issues |  |

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| **First Name** | **Last Name** | **Discipline Area** | **Aug** | **Sept** | **Oct** | **Nov** | **Dec** | **Jan** | **Feb** | **Mar** | **Apr** |
| Monica | Haddad | Arts & Humanities | P | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gretchen | Mosher | Biological & Agricultural Sciences | Sub | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Michael | Brown | Social Sciences & Education | P | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Young-JinPetruta | Lee (Fall)Caragea (Spring) | Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering | P | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chunhui | Xiang | Social Sciences & Education | P | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Steven | Lonergan | Biological & Agricultural Sciences | P | Sub |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Emily | Morgan | Arts & Humanities | P | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Carolyn | Cutrona | Social Sciences & Education | P | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Michael | Bailey | Arts & Humanities | P | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Donna | Winham | Biological & Agricultural Sciences | P | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Iddo | Friedberg | Biological & Agricultural Sciences | P | A |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Degang | Chen | Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering | P | Sub |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ajay | Nair | Biological & Agricultural Sciences | P | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sung YellJin | Song (Fall)Tian (Spring) | Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering | A | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PranavAmanda | Shrotriya (Fall)Weinstein (Spring) | Physical Sciences, Math & Engineering | P | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Steven | Freeman | Faculty Senate Representative | P | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| Elizabeth | Elliott | Post Doc  | N/A | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Susheel Kumar | Nethi | Post Doc  | N/A | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Christine | Cain | GPSS Pres/Grad Student – Social Sciences & Education | P | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Efrain | Rodriguez-Ocasio | Grad Student – Physical & Math Sciences & Engineering  | P | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Caitlyn | Campbell | GPSS VP/Grad Student – Biological & Agricultural Sciences  | P | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sarah | Bartlett | Grad Student – Arts & Humanities | N/A | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| Ex-officio |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| Bill | Graves | Dean of the Graduate College | P | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Michelle | Soupir | Interim Associate Dean, Graduate College | A | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Natalie | Robinson | Assistant Director of Academic Services, Graduate College | P | P |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Samantha | Hirschman | Graduate Student Services Specialist II, Graduate College | P | Sub |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Key: P = Present, A = Absent, Sub