

Graduate Faculty Meeting Minutes

4:00 pm, November 28, 2022

260 Toomey Hall & Zoom

Meeting called to order at 4:01 pm

1. D. Oerther presented the following informational items: the Graduate Education announcement on the implementation of an electronic approval workflow for graduate forms using Google forms; a subcommittee will be formed to formulate the Graduate Student Academic Year Performance Forms for campus-wide use; election of four faculty and one staff to serve on the 2022–23 Outstanding Contributions to Graduate Education Awards Committee.
2. Approval of Minutes from May 2, 2022 Meeting
 - M. Insall moved to approve; V. P. Reddy seconded; Approval by unanimous voting.
3. Approval of Fall 2022 Commencement List
 - S. Stanley moved to approve; M. Insall seconded; Unanimously approved by the members of the Graduate Faculty.
4. Graduate Faculty Membership Vote (Membership Committee recommended approval of five full and two associate membership applications)
 - Unanimously approved by the members of the Graduate Faculty for all but one (in which case there was one negative vote); all the membership applications were approved by the members of the Graduate Faculty.
5. Motion Approved by Graduate Council on September 7, 2022, to Revise Section III.A. of the Graduate Faculty Rules and Regulations
 - A. The membership of the Graduate Faculty shall consist of the following: The President of the University of Missouri System, the Chancellor, the Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the Vice Provost and Dean for College of Engineering and Computing, the Vice Provost and Dean of College of Arts, Science, and [Business Education, the Vice Provost and Dean of the Kummer College of Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Economic Development](#), the Vice Chancellor of Research, the Vice Provost of Graduate Education, the Vice Provost ~~for Academic Support of Undergraduate Education~~, the Vice Provost for Enrollment Management, Chairs of Departments authorized to offer graduate degree programs and/or graduate courses, and other members of the faculty at Missouri University of Science and Technology who are accepted under the rules of the Graduate Faculty to assume the responsibilities and authorities delegated to it.
 - Unanimously approved by the members of the Graduate Faculty.
6. Motion Approved by Graduate Council on September 7, 2022, to Revise Graduate Catalog (to clarify that removal of probation is determined by next semester GPA, not cumulative graduate GPA)
 - **GPA Requirements for Graduate Students**
 - In order to earn a graduate degree, a student must achieve both a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher for all graduate courses listed on the plan of study and cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher in all coursework taken at Missouri S&T. In order to earn a graduate certificate, a student must achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher in the courses approved for the certificate. On any plan of study or certificate program, no substitution may be made for a course in which the student has earned less than a B grade.

All graduate students are encouraged to maintain at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA at all times, and certain departments may even require this minimum GPA. In cases where a graduate student repeats a course, both the original and repeat grades will be used in calculating the student's GPA, and both will appear on the student's transcript.

If the semester graduate GPA falls below 3.0 the student will be placed on probation for the following semester. If the graduate semester GPA is not 3.0 or above in the following semester that coursework is taken, the student shall no longer be a candidate for a graduate degree or certificate from Missouri S&T.

- Unanimously approved by the members of the Graduate Faculty.

7. Motion Approved by Graduate Council on November 2, 2022, to Revise Sections III.C and IV.A. of the Graduate Faculty Rules and Regulations

- **III. MEMBERSHIP**

- C.3. He or she shall have shown evidence of encouraging and implementing the scholarly work of those studying beyond the Baccalaureate degree. Examples of such evidence may consist of:
 - a. Evidence of quality teaching at the graduate level.
 - b. Evaluations of graduate student mentoring.
 - c. Appropriate peer-reviewed publications co-authored with graduate students.
- C.4.3 He or she shall have shown evidence of activity in research or in creative or scholarly work beyond that comprised in earning his or her own higher degree. Examples of S-such evidence may consist of:
 - a. Appropriate publications in refereed journals, or proceedings of technical or research conferences where the participants have been selected by a program committee.
 - b. An active research program which has either received support on the basis of a research proposal judged by competent scholars, or which the Membership Committee of the Graduate Faculty, after careful consideration, evaluates to be of high quality. If the program has been active for several years, it must have resulted in publications to be admissible as evidence.
 - c. Teaching and development of new courses at the graduate level, which may include the authorship of textbooks.

- **IV. ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Petitions for membership in the Graduate Faculty shall be submitted to the Vice Provost of Graduate Education by the Chairs of the Departments concerned no later than the first day of October during the Fall Semester and the first day of March during the Spring Semester. The petition shall be accompanied by appropriate evidence that the department chair feels necessary to substantiate the qualifications of the individual being considered for membership (see III. Membership).
- There was hot debate on this issue of the Graduate Faculty Rules and Regulations, based on the serious objections raised M. Bruening and others, including, as pointed out by M. Bruening, “three deans and several chairs on the campus”; The objections centered on several items that are deemed to be unfair to some of the members of Graduate Faculty and may marginalize the non-STEM faculty; For example, not all the Graduate Faculty may have opportunity to work with graduate students, especially those that are in non-STEM departments, and thus may be disenfranchised by the current proposed Graduate Faculty Rules and Regulations; Items, such as submitting supporting letters from the graduate students as part of the Graduate Faculty membership, were deemed to extend the scope too broadly; It was suggested by some members of the general faculty that friendly amendments be made to the Graduate Faculty Rules and Regulations (even though they were originally formulated with good intentions) in the next Graduate Council meeting prior to introducing them in the next graduate faculty meeting for approval by the Graduate Faculty.
- M. Zawodniok motioned to table this item for the next Graduate Faculty meeting. M. Insall seconded; Unanimously approved to table this item for the next Graduate Faculty meeting (after revising/amending the rules and regulations in an upcoming Graduate Council meeting) by the members of the Graduate Faculty.

8. Motion Approved by Graduate Council on November 2, 2022, to Revise the Graduate Catalog

- **Comprehensive Examination for the Master of Science Degree without Thesis**

- ~~The biological sciences~~ Some departments require(s) candidates to ~~take~~ successfully complete a final comprehensive examination, which will be administered by an examining committee, typically in their final semester. The candidate must be enrolled at the time of the examination. The candidate will receive a passing grade if all, or all but one, of the members vote to pass based on the departmental criteria set when the exam is administered. The candidate must successfully complete a final written comprehensive examination that is administered by an examining committee.

For candidates whose department requires a comprehensive examination, a committee will be designated by submitting the Form 1-B, first to the department chair and then to the vice provost of graduate education. The committee must consist of at least ~~five~~ three members, ~~one of which must be from outside the candidate's major department.~~ The chair and at least half of the committee members must be members of the Missouri S&T graduate faculty. If a committee member is not a member of graduate faculty, a vita verifying equivalent level (or higher) of education must be provided with the Form 1-B.

~~The comprehensive examination will be given in the candidate's final semester. The candidate must be enrolled at the time of the examination. The candidate will receive a passing grade if all, or all but one, of the members vote to pass.~~ Results of the comprehensive examination must be submitted on the Form 3, first to the department chair and then to the vice provost of graduate education. A student who fails the examination twice will no longer be eligible to receive a graduate degree from that program. However, the student is still eligible to pursue a graduate degree from any other graduate degree program willing to accept them.

- Unanimously approved by the members of the Graduate Faculty.

9. Motion Approved by Graduate Council on November 2, 2022, to Create a Contingency Procedure for Removing an Advisor/Committee Member from the Thesis/Dissertation Committee (See supporting document for proposal)

- Unanimously approved by the members of the Graduate Faculty.

10. New Business

- None

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm