

Graduate Council Meeting Agenda

140 Toomey Hall and via Zoom

12:00 pm, November 6, 2024

Zoom link: <https://umsystem.zoom.us/j/93552980685?pwd=JonllEgtjQOtf5d7MJcwp0H3UJp0kW.1>

Meeting ID: 935 5298 0685 Passcode: 902210

1. Roll call
2. Approval of Minutes from October 2, 2024 meeting
3. President's report
4. Grad Track Pathway
 - a. Extend start time for MS to 1 year after BS graduation
 - i. Benefits:
 - Getting more of our students to get master's degrees
 - Allows for a delay in start date without additional administrative overhead.
 - Might be very helpful for international students
 - ii. Risks:
 - Hard to track over 200 students in GTP
 - The program might be abused as a backup option
 - A discontinued study agenda might cause trouble to students when they are back to campus
 - A potential break of the research continuity
 - Raises issues of equity for grad students that did not get BS at S&T and potential negative impact on university reputation.
 - iii. Recommendation:
 - Make it a case-by-case program that requires special approval, student's guarantee, or some constraints (if any ?), etc. If there are many applicants, we establish it into a regular option.
 - b. Certificate track (see attached document)
Recommend the council to vote on the decision since it was discussed in the last meeting.
 - c. Limiting credit hours for GTP/dual enrollment
5. Graduate Faculty Reappointment Review Update for FS24
 - a. Membership Committee Renew
 - i. Must be from departmental representative serving on Graduate Council
 - ii. One individual from an engineering department, at least one from a science department, at least one from a department associated with arts, humanities and social sciences, and at least one from a business related department
 - iii. We are reaching out to existing committee members to continue their service if they agree.
 - b. Research Policy Committee Renew
 - i. It was listed as a special committee back to 2020.
 - ii. There is no active focus by the committee right now.
 - iii. Recommend no renew of the committee.
 - c. End of the year Awards Committee
 - i. Needs at least three members.
 - ii. Must be associate with graduate efforts on campus
 - iii. Prefer to have at least one staff member involved.
 - iv. Volunteer solicitation
6. New business

Certificate Track

Allows eligible students to apply up to six credit hours of graduate courses (5000- and 6000-level lecture) taken while completing the bachelor's degree towards a future graduate certificate.

Courses designated as shared credits are registered as undergraduate credits, and therefore, they will be charged at the undergraduate tuition rate, and included in the cumulative undergraduate GPA. Shared credit courses cannot be factored into the cumulative graduate GPA and will not appear on the graduate transcript.

A student is eligible to apply to the pathway once the following criteria are met:

- a. Must be active in a bachelor's degree program (it is recommended students apply at least 30 days prior to completing the bachelor's degree).
- b. Must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00/4.00.
- c. Must have a minimum GPA of 3.50/4.00 in the group of designated courses specified by the department.

To be admitted to the pathway program, eligible students must submit an early provisional application to the intended certificate program for the semester following the anticipated completion of the bachelor's degree. Individual departments may require additional documents, such as statement of purpose, or letters of recommendation.

Prior to completing the bachelor's degree, the student must also consult with their undergraduate and graduate advisor(s) to determine which courses will be designated as shared credits. This ensures that the courses will satisfy the requirements of the bachelor's degree and can be used toward the requirements of the certificate. Once the courses are selected, the student must formally designate the courses selected for shared credits with the department chair/designee and the vice provost of graduate education. If changes occur at any time, the student must revise their plan in the same manner. The courses designated as shared credits must be accurate, and if changes occur at any time, the student must revise their last approved designation.

Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 until they complete their bachelor's degree and receive a grade of B or better in the shared credit courses.

If all program requirements are met, the approved shared credit courses may be used to meet the requirements of the certificate program. If any course does not meet the requirements, that course will not be considered as part of the shared credits for the certificate requirements.

Once the bachelor's degree is awarded with a cumulative GPA of 3.00/4.00, and the student is fully admitted to the certificate program, the courses designated as shared credit will be included on the student's graduate degree audit as part of the certificate program requirements.