

# Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

140 Toomey Hall

12:00pm Wednesday February 6, 2019

Present: M. Moats, G. Markowsky, K. Perry, B. Flachsbart, L. Alagha, D. Fischer, M. Insall, C. Tsatsoulis, S. Raper (also representing S. Corns & C. Dagli)

Not Present: S.N. Balakrishnan, C. Hou, D. Barua, J. Winiarz, C. Mendoza, C. Kim, E. Malone, L. Gertsch, W. Yang, M. Meagher, F. Liou, S. Stanley, X. Yang, J. Newkirk, A. Alajo, B. Bai, N. Weidner, D. Oerther, B. Marley, R. Wlezien, K. Drowne

President M. Insall called the meeting to order, 12:00 pm.

Roll call – K. Perry (serving as secretary for absent D. Oerther)

1. The meeting minutes from November 7, 2018 are not yet finalized. A motion was made to postpone the voting of approval of these minutes until they are finalized by the next Graduate Council Meeting. G. Markowsky made the motion which was seconded by K. Perry. It passed unanimously.
2. M. Insall reported that two items had been completed. First, the Grad Fac website has been updated to accurately reflect current agreed Rules and Regulations. Second, membership application has been updated to accurately reflect current agreed Rules and Regulations.
3. M. Insall reported on efforts currently ongoing. There are efforts underway to appoint a balanced committee representing our diversity of programs as part of the Course Requirements Committee with plans to look for consistency and loosen some requirements while ensuring inclusivity. There are also efforts in crafting a charge to the Course Requirements Committee with items such as how to deal with ABD students and the courtesy appointment effect on students.
4. Membership Committee report was not given since the Chair, N. Weidner, was ill and absent.
5. New Business
  - a. M. Moats discussed the role of the Grad Council, how it appeared to not have much influence on the University and wondered how to make it more impactful. M. Insall described some ways the Council works behind the scenes and some of the functions. C. Tsatsoulis brought up at this time that Deans from other Universities have been invited to S&T to recommend ideas on how S&T can improve in weak areas.
  - b. C. Tsatsoulis recommended putting a committee together to address how to remove a member or chair of a graduate student's committee. There have been a small percentage of students who have had difficulty replacing a committee member or chair due to the member being unresponsive (left S&T) or unwilling to sign-off on being removed (the current requirement). M. Insall and G. Markowsky pointed out

that there needs to be some sort of appeal process in place to protect the committee member from unsubstantiated claims or abuse of this idea by the student.

Motion to adjourn by G. Markowsky, second by S. Raper. Approved unanimously.

Adjournment at 12:40 pm.