Minutes of the Graduate Faculty Meeting  
December 4, 2023, 4 p.m.  
Location: on Zoom and in Missouri-Ozark Room, Havener Center (Room 207)

The following people were in attendance on Zoom: Jade Sinnott, Steve Corns, Ed Malone, Mehdi Ferdowsi, Melanie Mormile, Irina Ivliyeva, Chang-Soo Kim, Petra Dewitt, Aditya Kumar, Vy Le, and Madison Armstrong.

The meeting began at 4 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes from May 1, 2023, meeting

Melanie Mormile moved to approve the May 1 minutes; Mehdi Ferdowsi seconded.

The minutes were approved.

2. Commencement List Approval

The commencement list was approved by a vote of the members in attendance: 86% in favor and 14% abstention (= 1 person abstaining)

3. Interim President’s Report

The report was brief.

4. Graduate Faculty Membership Vote for FS23

Ten full and seven associate memberships recommended from the Membership Committee

Magdy Amin Abdeirahman  
Lana Alagha  
Rui Bo  
Chihan Dagli  
Kathryn Dolan  
Kristen Donnell  
Daoru Han  
David Lipke  
Matthew Thimgan  
Haiming Wen  

Viraj Ashok Athavale  
Jie Gao  
Hani Salim  
Lesley Haynes Sneed  
Patrick Taylor
All memberships were approved by a vote of the members in attendance.

5. Recommendation to Chancellor to revise Policy Memorandum II-20, section A.4

The proposed policy change was approved by a vote of the members in attendance. Steve Corns will send a letter to the chancellor, recommending that the change be implemented.

Original Passage:

When a graduate student takes the master’s comprehensive exam, doctoral qualifying exam, doctoral comprehensive exam, or defends their thesis/dissertation, they must be enrolled on the date of the exam/defense. Failure to do so may invalidate the exam/defense. If the exam/defense occurs during the intersession, then an examination-only fee is appropriate by enrolling in one credit hour of Oral Examination, 5040/6040.

Proposed Revision:

When a graduate student takes the master’s comprehensive exam, doctoral qualifying exam, doctoral comprehensive exam, or defends their thesis/dissertation, they must be enrolled on the date of the exam/defense. Failure to do so may invalidate the exam/defense. If the exam/defense occurs during the intersession, the student must have been enrolled in the immediately preceding semester/session; or, prior to the exam/defense date, they must enroll in one credit hour of Oral Examination, 5040/6040 (charged as an examination-only fee).

This change is recommended as the current requirements impose an unnecessary financial and administrative burden on graduate students.

6. New business

There was no new business.

Chang-Soo Kim moved to adjourn; Irina Ivliyeva seconded.

The meeting ended at 4:17 p.m.