

2023-2024 Graduate Council

Minutes

September 22, 2023 1:00 to 3:00 pm

[Zoom: Link](#)

Faculty Representatives Present:

Tierney McCleary (GACET, STPSM) (Chair), Ildi Porter-Szucs (CAS-Humanities), Muhammad Ahmed (GACET), Marianne Laporte (CAS-Natural Sciences), Tucker Staley (Fall 2023) TBD (Winter 2024) (CAS-Social Sciences), Jessica Swan (COE), Kathie Mason (LIB), Brian Spolans (CAS-Fine/Performing Arts)

Graduate School Representatives Present:

Steven Pernecky (Graduate School), Jenny Kindred (Faculty Associate)

1. Call to Order: 1:01 p.m

2. Approval of the Agenda

- a. Tucker motions to approve
 - i. 2nd Marianne
- b. Discussion
 - i. Name adjustments, etc
- c. Vote 5-0-0

3. Introductions

4. Election of Secretary

- a. No volunteers/nominations
 - i. Tucker volunteers for current meeting only

5. Approval of ([Minutes from April 14, 2023](#))

- a. Muhhammad motions to approve
 - i. 2nd Tucker
- b. Vote 2-0-4

6. Announcements from Chair

GC bylaws and [operating procedures](#) ([FS Bylaws](#))

- 1. Communications with constituents
- 2. Representatives' information sent to Graduate Coordinators
- 3. Setting Agendas
- 4. Autonomy from Faculty Senate
- 5. Canvas – Graduate Council Community Page

7. Communication from the Graduate School

- a. Jenny
 - i. Update on Grad Conference: March 15
 - ii. Orientation for Grad Coordinators happening soon
- b. Steve
 - i. Grad open house: Nov 6
 - ii. Updates on Graduate Enrollment numbers (Fall 2023)
 - 1. Applications down a bit

- 2. Acceptance rate has increased
 - 3. Currently looks like same pattern for Winter 2024
- iii. Admit to enroll pipeline
 - 1. Down 11% Fall 22-23
- iv. Other enrollment mgmt info
 - 1. New Director of Admissions
 - 2. Streamlining seeing/accessing applications
 - 3. Continue to look for ways to waive application fees
 - 4. New UG/Grad officer
- v. Upcoming Roundtables
 - 1. Grad school will be a part of these
 - a. Tuition rates
 - b. Marketing
 - c. Program(s) stability
- vi. Discussions with Provost re: resource allocation (human or otherwise)

8. Unfinished Business (PKA Old Business)

- a. Combined Programs Review
 - i. Top priority this year
 - 1. Focus on next meeting

9. Request for Input:

- a. What issues do you think the Graduate School should be bringing forward in the next academic year?
 - i. Combined programs
 - ii. Sustainability
 - 1. Process for deciding course offerings, cross-listing
 - 2. Appropriate graduate level quality
 - 3. Marketing
 - 4. Course offerings actually available
 - iii. GA allocation process
- b. What are ways that the provost's office can support faculty & departments re: the admit to enroll pipeline and beef up our numbers in enrollment?
 - i. Root causes of declining enrollment declines
 - ii. Resources to market programs
- c. Benchmarks for proposals

10. Scheduled Themes of Meetings

- a. Oct:
 - i. Combined programs
 - 1. Pedagogy vs Credit hrs
 - ii. Marketing resources

11. Recurring: Updates on Graduate student mentoring and wellness

- i. Open discussion on efforts to support mentoring and mental health.

12. Meeting Adjourned: 2:56 p.m.

Upcoming events:

GC Meeting #2 October 20, 2023 via Zoom
GC Meeting # 3 November 17, 2023 via Zoom
GC Meeting # 4 January 19, 2024 Via Zoom
GC Meeting #5 February 23, 2024 Via Zoom
GC Meeting #6 March 15, 2024 Via Zoom
GC Meeting #7 April 5, 2024 Via Zoom (If needed)

- Dissertation Deadlines:
 - o Nov 1 (December Commencement);
 - o March 1 (April Commencement);
 - o July 1** (August Commencement)
- Thesis Deadlines:
 - o Nov 15 (December Commencement);
 - o March 15 (April Commencement);
 - o July 15** (August Commencement)

** These deadlines are earlier than they were the previous year

- Graduate Research Conference: March 15

Next Meeting: **October 20, 2023** (1:00-3:00)

Graduate Council: <https://www.emich.edu/facultysenate/gradcouncil/index.php>