

*Graduate Council*  
**GRADUATE COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**

Friday, March 25, 2022 • 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting

**Members of the Graduate Council Present:**

Paul Steimle, chair	Brad Johnson
Seth Armah	Muktha Jost
Aaron Beveridge	Alicia Kaplan
Ben Dyson	Dennis LaJeunesse
Vidya Gargeya	Lori Lupe
Diane Gill	Salih Rakap
Brad Johnson	Kervins Clement
	Naglaa Rashwan

**Members of the Graduate Council Absent:**

Neelofer Qadir

**Ex Officio & Non-Voting Members Present:**

Greg Bell	Graduate School
Jodi Pettazzoni	Office of Assessment, Accreditation, and Academic Program Planning
Rachel Olsen	University Libraries

**Ex Officio & Non-Voting Members Absent:**

Lisa Henline University Registrar's Office

<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Item</u>
11:00 a.m.	<b>I. Approval of Minutes from February 25, 2022</b> Motion to approve February 25, 2022 minutes (Johnson, Wells). Minutes approved.
11:03	<b>II. Report of the Chair – Paul Steimle—No Report</b>
11:08	<b>III. Report of the Interim Dean of the Graduate School – Greg Bell</b> Dean Bell provided an update on the 10 <sup>th</sup> annual Graduate Research and Creativity Showcase. Video submissions from across campus have been received, and finalists will present posters at the Weatherspoon Art Museum on April 8. Judges from across campus will participate, and six winners will receive \$1000 each. The awards ceremony will also recognize the five winners of the Graduate Teaching Assistant awards. Graduate program directors will receive a message next week reminding them of the event and recommending it be used as a recruiting tool for local admitted students. Admitted students will also get a message through Slate, and student ambassadors will be available for tours on April 8. Fellowship offers are being extended and adjusted. April 15 is the deadline for students to confirm that they will be attending graduate programs. Graduate assistantships for summer are also being set up. Another permanent budget cut is anticipated and will impact the Graduate

School; no decisions have been made yet but graduate student funding could be affected.

11:23      **IV. Report of the Graduate Student Association—Naglaa Rashwan**

Naglaa Rashwan expressed gratitude for her two years working with the Graduate Council and Policy Committee; she stated that serving as a voting member has been an empowering experience. She introduced Alexander Grindstaff, the incoming GSA president. Alexander greeted the Council and expressed that his vision for the GSA is helping graduate students become more engaged with campus.

11:33      **V. Report of the Graduate Curriculum Committee – Brad Johnson and Dennis LaJeunesse—No Report; the March 18 meeting was canceled**

11:35      **VI. Report of the Policies & Procedures Committee—Ben Dyson**

- *Action item: Vote on removal of Fresh Start Admissions Policy from Catalog*
  - Dean Bell reported that the Fresh Start Admissions Policy was created a few years ago to assist returning master's students with low GPAs from their previous time at UNCG
    - Some master's students who returned with low GPAs experienced difficulty following their first semester back since an overall GPA of 3.0 is required for graduate students
  - Due to Banner limitations, the policy cannot be implemented at this time
  - The Council expressed concern that technological limitations are dictating policy and requested that the Fresh Start Admissions Policy be revisited in the next academic year
  - The Council put forth a motion: The Fresh Start Admissions Policy will be temporarily removed from the Catalog (Gill, Johnson) Approved.
- *Action item: Vote on Graduate Student Grievance Procedures in Catalog*
  - Dean Bell stated that Graduate Student Grievance Procedures are listed in the Catalog as “pending Graduate Council approval”
  - The Council put forth a motion (Gill): The Graduate Council approves the Graduate Student Grievance Procedures in the Catalog. A second was not required as the motion came from the Policy committee; motion approved.
- *Discussion item: Impact of new BOG funding model on graduate education*
  - Dean Bell discussed that the 12 cell matrix was previously

used for funding. This model determined funding based on CIP code and level of instruction. The new BOG funding model was introduced in 2022 and was intended to simplify the process; all student credit hours were valued equally. UNC System institutions provided feedback and graduate programs with STEM CIP codes will now receive an increased level of funding (1.5x undergraduate funding for STEM master’s programs and 2.5x undergraduate funding for STEM doctoral programs). Other feedback included questioning the use of Delaware data and pushback against the removal of subsidies for non-resident graduate students. Institutional funding is also based on 6 performance metrics. The funding model goes to the full BOG for a vote in April. The UNCG community can respond as private citizens if desired.

- UNCG has 15 master’s programs and 9 doctoral programs with STEM CIP codes. There is discussion regarding whether the focus of other programs may be shifted to allow for STEM CIP codes.
- The Council requested to see information regarding current programs and student credit hours to understand how the new funding model will impact graduate education. Bob Shea is currently working on calculations to demonstrate the impact, and Dean Bell will share this information when available. For the next fiscal year, the BOG will run both the current and new funding models and provide funding based on whichever model provides higher funding. The new model will be implemented for 2023-2024 (fiscal year 2024).
- The Council also expressed interest in knowing whether the funds from the BOG are allocated to specific areas or if individual institutions allocate the funds.

11:55      **VII. Report of the Student Appeals Committee—No Report**

11:57      **VIII. Report of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee – Vidya Gargeya**

Vidya Gargeya reported that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee met on March 21 and that Provost Storrs attended. Provost Storrs indicated that some programs may have to be restructured and that programs that are not economically viable may be removed.

The Council expressed concern about the economic viability of departments that offer only (or mostly) graduate education.

12:10 pm      **IX. New Business/Other**

12:30      **X. Adjournment**

