

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

Friday, April 29, 2022 • 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting

**Members of the Graduate Council Present:**

Paul Steimle, chair	Lori Lupe
Seth Armah	Neelofer Qadir
Vidya Gargeya	Salih Rakap
Muktha Jost	Robert Wells
Alicia Kaplan	Kervins Clement

**Members of the Graduate Council Absent:**

Aaron Beveridge	Dennis LaJeunesse
Ben Dyson	Brad Johnson
Diane Gill	Naglaa Rashwan

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

Greg Bell	Graduate School
Jodi Pettazzoni	Office of Assessment, Accreditation, and Academic Program Planning

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

Lisa Henline	University Registrar's Office
Rachel Olsen	University Libraries

<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Item</u>
11:00 a.m.	<b>I. Approval of Minutes from March 25, 2022</b>  Motion to approve March 25, 2022 minutes (Gargeya, 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 thanked Paul Steimle for his leadership as Graduate Council Chair and thanked Selima Sultana for taking on the role of Graduate Council Chair for the next term. Dean Bell thanked the Council for their service as well and commented that the Council has done things to be proud of this year and improved the situation for students.  Dean Bell reported that he is encouraged that numbers are up overall for the Graduate School: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 5.25% increase in applications (228 more applications) for graduate programs compared to previous year</li><li>• 4.5% increase in admitted students (94 more students) for graduate programs compared to previous year</li></ul>

- 15.5% increase in committed students (174 more students) for graduate programs compared to previous year
  - Breakdown of increases in committed students
    - 5 more certificate students
    - 30 more licensure students
    - 130 more master's students
    - 10 more doctoral students

The Doctoral Hooding Ceremony takes place on May 5 and approximately 100 students will participate (the largest group ever). Commencement takes place on May 6 and 340 students will receive graduate degrees (the largest group ever).

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

No Report; reminder that Alexander Grindstaff will be the GSA representative for the next academic year

Chair Paul Steimle thanked Naglaa Rashwan and Kervins Clement for their service on the Graduate Council and expressed gratitude for their insight and perspective. Kervins Clement thanked the Graduate Council for the opportunity and experience.

11:33      **V. Report of the Graduate Curriculum Committee – Brad Johnson and Dennis LaJeunesse**

- *GCC Information Items (from April 22, 2022 meeting)*
- *Action item: vote on Request to Establish proposal for MS in Instructional Technology and Design*

Jodi Pettazoni reported that this proposal is to move the MEd in Teacher Education, Instructional Technology concentration to a standalone MS degree. The new program will have several courses with the 11 CIP code (computer science), which are considered STEM and will be funded at a higher level. The department believes the program will have increased enrollment as a standalone degree.

The Graduate Council approved the proposal.

11:43      **VI. Report of the Policies & Procedures Committee—Ben Dyson**

Recommendations from the Policies & Procedures Committee:

- *Creating a Graduate Exceptions Committee*

This proposed change would add a charge for the Student Appeals Committee, which would now hear admissions exceptions requests as well (such as English language proficiency waivers). The committee could also examine admissions policies, make recommendations, and create standard criteria for exceptions requests. Approximately 10-20 exceptions requests are received

each year. This item will be added to the agenda next year for a vote.

- *Credential Evaluation Exceptions for Fulbright Scholars*

The Graduate School currently requires a course-by-course NACES evaluation report as part of international student applications. The proposed change is to add the following statement: Fulbright Scholars are exempt from the requirement to provide a NACES evaluation. The change is intended to make the application process easier for Fulbright applicants since they undergo a rigorous vetting process as Fulbright Scholars. The change was proposed in consultation with the IPC.

Vidya Gargeya put forth a motion to approve the change, and Seth Armah seconded the motion. The change was approved.

- *Policy on Changing Admissions Requirements*

The proposed change is to allow admissions requirements changes at the discretion of departments only while Slate is offline in June. This will ensure that changes are not made while an application cycle is ongoing.

Robert Wells put forth a motion to approve the change, and Selima Sultana seconded the motion. The change was approved.

11:53      **VII. Report of the Student Appeals Committee**

The Appeals Committee reported that 1 appeal has been received. The student hearing has taken place and the committee is preparing a recommendation to be sent to Dean Bell.

11:55      **VIII. Report of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee – Vidya Gargeya**

Vidya Gargeya thanked Chair Paul Steimle for his excellent leaderships at a critical juncture.

Vidya reported that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee has continued deliberations regarding the new funding model and that Faculty Senate has passed a resolution supporting professional track faculty. He reported that a new representative is needed for the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

The Council discussed that a representative with good context for UNCG is needed, especially since budget discussions are ongoing. The Council also discussed the possibility of someone apprenticing Vidya in this role in order to be prepared for the role in the future. Vidya stated that he can discuss this with Sarah Daynes and that the chairs will meet with Sarah Daynes regarding the transition.

Vidya was nominated to serve again as the Faculty Senate Executive Committee representative and was approved with 1 abstention. Vidya stated that he will provide transparency between the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and the Graduate Council.

12:05 pm     **IX.    New Business/Other**

- *Approval for Summer Curriculum Items*

Jodi reported that program changes needing quick implementation may arise over the summer and that a vote is needed to delegate authority to the Graduate Council Chair and Chair-Elect.

Vidya Gargeya put forth a motion to delegate authority to the Graduate Council Chair and Chair-Elect, and Robert Wells seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

12:30        **X.        Adjournment**

Chair Paul Steimle stated that it was an honor and privilege to serve as the Graduate Council Chair and thanked the Graduate Council for their contributions. He thanked Kate Humphries for supporting the Council and expressed confidence in Selima Sultana as the Chair for next year.