

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

Friday, January 28, 2022 • 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting

**Members of the Graduate Council Present:**

Paul Steimle, chair	Neelofer Qadir
Seth Armah	Salih Rakap
Vidya Gargeya	Selima Sultana
Brad Johnson	Robert Wells
Muktha Jost	Kervins Clement
Dennis LaJeunesse	Naglaa Rashwan
Lori Lupe	

**Members of the Graduate Council Absent:**

Aaron Beveridge	Ben Dyson
Diane Gill	Alicia Kaplan

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

Greg Bell	Graduate School
Jodi Pettazoni	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 November 19, 2021</b> Motion to approve November 19, 2021 minutes (Gargeya, Johnson). 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 reported that the Graduate School hit the enrollment target (based on census data) set by Enrollment Management. Growth in the Computer Science master's program helped exceed the target by a few students. After removing the GRE requirement, applications to the program increased (attributed to removing the cost barrier). The increased applications brought up the issue of capacity for programs, and Provost Storrs has asked Dean Bell to help units figure out the capacity of their programs. There is an interest in helping increase capacity to meet demand. The committee discussed processes for determining capacity, such as reviewing faculty ability to take on students' capstone projects as well as determining the capacity for courses associated with programs.

The committee also expressed concerns about admitting more students and how it may affect retention.

Dean Bell stated that budget numbers are being released and that tuition waiver funds have been released to units, who work with departments to allocate those funds. There is no change from the amount of tuition waiver funds provided in the previous year. Assistantship funds come from units to departments and reductions may be seen.

Dean Bell shared that the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Graduate Research and Creativity Showcase will take place in Spring 2022. There will be a preliminary round with online content and finalists will participate in an in-person event on April 8. The videos created by the students can be posted on social media and shared with prospective students. Because the event occurs one week prior to the signing deadline of April 15, departments can encourage accepted students to attend.

Dean Bell discussed that IPiE (Institute for Partnerships in Education) is working with Guilford County Schools to provide tutoring services. The initiative is coordinated by Holt Wilson in the School of Education. They are recruiting graduate students across all disciplines and will provide stipends, in/out-of-state tuition, fees, and health insurance. Faculty must nominate students for the assistantship, and nominations are due by February 18.

Dean Bell also reminded the Graduate Council that the Alumni/Excellence/Hayes Fellowships have moved into the second round.

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

Naglaa Rashwan shared that this will be her last semester participating in the Graduate Council and expressed appreciation for the empowering and educational experience.

Naglaa reported that the GSA had a virtual Q&A on January 27 with members of the administration including Chancellor Gilliam, Provost Storrs, Dean Bell, Dean Hamilton, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Akens, and Graduate Council Chair Steimle. The Q&A addressed students' concerns about returning to campus and provided helpful information and resources. A recording is available.

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

- *GCC Information Items (from December 1, 2021 and January 21, 2022 meetings)*

Co-chairs Dennis LaJeunesse and Brad Johnson reported that 6 items were approved at the December 1 meeting and that 1 item was approved at the January 21 meeting. They also provided an update that 600/700 level courses are under discussion. A new understanding of the funding model means that the level of instruction for a course is set independent of the course number. A field will be added to CIM so that departments can indicate whether a course is at the master's or doctoral level, which will determine the funding. Levels of instruction have been reviewed for 500,

700, and 800 level courses, and graduate program directors will be contacted regarding any 600 level courses where there is a question regarding the level of instruction.

The co-chairs and Jodi Pettazzoni also stated that a new Request to Deliver form (for requesting online delivery) is forthcoming from the UNC System. The Academic Program Planning Financial Worksheet is also now a requirement when submitting a Request to Deliver form. Departments are welcome to reach out to Steve Honeycutt for assistance.

- 11:43      **VI. Report of the Policies & Procedures Committee—Ben Dyson—No Report; the Policies and Procedures Committee was unable to meet in January but will meet on February 11**
- 11:53      **VII. Report of the Student Appeals Committee—No Report**
- 11:55      **VIII. Report of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee – Vidya Gargeya**  
Vidya Gargeya reported that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee met on January 10 and focused on COVID management. Spring 2022 is the first semester where the University has not provided detailed COVID protocols and is leaving it up to individuals to report concerns.  
  
The committee also discussed an instrument of government draft for faculty assembly for academic units. Provost Storrs and the deans of the academic units have been involved in creating the document. Dean Bell stated that the Graduate Council has bylaws and that the Policy Committee will look into how to elect the new Faculty Senate Executive Committee representative for the Graduate Council as it is Vidya’s last term.  
  
Vidya also opened a discussion on the budget’s effect on graduate education. Dean Bell reported that Associate Deans determine assistantships and that graduate program directors distribute tuition waivers. Provost Storrs has requested that the process of allocating tuition waivers to units be reevaluated as units are typically just provided the amount they received the previous year. Units receive a dollar amount and can use their discretion in providing full or partial funding to students.
- 12:05 pm      **IX. New Business/Other**
- 12:30      **X. Adjournment—Adjourned early at 12:10 pm**