

Graduate Council
GRADUATE COUNCIL
MINUTES

Friday, August 27, 2021 • 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

Members of the Graduate Council Present:

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

Members of the Graduate Council Absent:

Alicia Kaplan

Ex Officio & Non-Voting Members Present:

Kelly Burke	Graduate School
Greg Bell	Graduate School
Jodi Pettazzoni	Office of Assessment, Accreditation, and Academic Program Planning
Megan Carlton	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.	<p>I. Approval of Minutes from April 23, 2021</p> <p>Motion to approve April 23, 2021 minutes (Gargeya, Beveridge). Minutes approved with revision to change students to applicants in Dean Burke's report.</p>
11:03	<p>II. Report of the Chair – Paul Steimle</p> <p>Chair welcomed everyone and thanked them for serving on the Council. Self-introductions followed.</p> <p>The Council expressed concern regarding recording the meetings via Zoom and the decision was made to record via audio only (for the purpose of ensuring minutes are accurate).</p> <p>The chair discussed the Graduate Council standing committees and Council membership. The chair instructed that if members wish to add items to the agenda they should email him, Dean Burke, and Associate Dean Bell. Kate Humphries can be copied for informational purposes. Agenda items can discussed with standing committee chairs as applicable and then added to the agenda as needed.</p>

11:13 **III. Report of the Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School – Kelly Burke**

Dean Burke reported that the Graduate School has the largest graduate enrollment yet. She thanked committee members for their work in supporting graduate students and stated that retention has had a big impact on the positive enrollment numbers. Dean Burke advised that a preliminary analysis on tuition support funding indicates that funds have been utilized well. She stated that the Graduate School has worked through the new I-9 process and now plans to move away from the NC People project, likely to something new in Slate.

Report from Associate Dean Bell:

Student enhancement activities are planned to be face to face for the fall but can be pivoted to virtual if needed.

- The Preparing Future Leaders program has seen waning interest over the past few years and will be relaunched this fall as the Preparing Future Faculty program.
- The preliminary 3 Minute Thesis competition will be held in downtown Greensboro at Scuppernong Books in October to increase community engagement. Kervins Clement suggested inviting high school seniors to the event to increase awareness of graduate programs.
- Updates will be shared at a later date regarding the Research & Creativity Expo.
- Based on CAP guidelines, GSA is currently unable to provide travel funding for students.

Dean Burke discussed that students can apply for P Cards if needed to complete research assignments. Dean Burke advised that enrolled credit hours are lower than needed and encouraged departments to remind graduate students that they can take 12 hours and still be charged the flat full-time rate for tuition.

11:28 **IV. Report of the Graduate Curriculum Committee – Brad Johnson and Dennis LaJeunesse**

Co-chair Dennis LaJeunesse provided a brief overview of the Graduate Curriculum Committee's work in final review of curricular changes and reported that 11 proposals were reviewed at the August 20 meeting. He stated that Curriculum Roles & Review checklists have been posted on the [Curriculum Guide website](#) and that OAAAPP is providing training.

11:38 **V. Report of the Policies & Procedures Committee—Megan Carlton**

Chair Megan Carlton discussed the committee's work of vetting new policies/policy changes and reported that the committee's first meeting will be on September 10. Dean Burke stated that the Policies & Procedures Committee provides policy recommendations to the Graduate Council, the Graduate Council votes, and if the vote is positive the policy is shared for comment. The final step is for the policy to be voted upon at the General Faculty meeting.

- 11:48 **VI. Report of the Student Appeals Committee**
- Dean Burke recommended that the Appeals Committee consider an ad-hoc membership. Vidya Gargeya expressed concern about the turnaround time of an ad-hoc committee and discussion followed regarding timelines. The current members of the Appeals Committee expressed willingness to be available as needed.
- 11:50 **VII. Report of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee – Vidya Gargeya**
- Vidya Gargeya reported that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee had a retreat on August 20 and set priorities for the year. Faculty Senate has a new chair—Sarah Daynes. The Executive Committee also met with the Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, who advised that overall enrollment is down approximately 4.5% and the UNCG budget is down about 3.4% (approximately \$460 million).
- 12:00 pm **VIII. New Business/Other**
- Election of Graduate Council Chair-Elect—Paul Steimle
 - Selima Sultana was elected as Graduate Council Chair-Elect by acclamation.
 - Graduate Hooding Ceremony, Student speakers (discussion item) – Paul Steimle
 - Dean Burke reported that a face to face hooding ceremony is planned for December and that the guidelines must be finalized soon. Associate Dean Bell advised that it can be difficult to confirm whether a graduate student will meet all graduation requirements and recommended checking in with students’ mentors to confirm that graduation is realistic. Naglaa Rashwan raised concerns regarding item 1 in the rubric (does the speech show appreciation for UNCG’s focus on diversity, equity, and inclusiveness) and suggested that a statement regarding UNCG’s impact could be added. Dean Burke suggested revising the statement to “does the speech show appreciation for UNCG’s inclusive excellence.” The Council also discussed item 6 in the rubric (original submission), and Aaron Beveridge recommended revising it to “consistent submission.” The GC chair and Associate Dean Bell will move forward with revisions. The GSA will share the guidelines with students and Dean Burke and Associate Dean Bell will share the guidelines with faculty mentors.
- 12:15 **IX. Adjournment—12:35 pm**